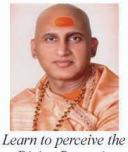
JHARKHAND'S OWN ENGLISH DAILY

# THE AVENUE MAIL

JAMSHEDPUR • FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023 • VOL : 30 NO : 235 • RS.3/- • PAGES - 12 • www.avenuemail.in

INDIA AIM FOR VICTORY TO MAKE PUJARA'S 100TH TEST MEMORABLE, AUS...: PAGE -7

## SPARKLERS



*Learn to perceive the Divine Power in everything around you. Accept everything as the blessing of God.*

H. H. Swami Avdeshanand Giri

# Neglected tribal glory now being brought to mainstream: PM

## PM Modi inaugurates Aadi Mahotsav in New Delhi

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Taking forward his pitch for tribal welfare, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that what was once considered remote and neglected, is now being brought into the mainstream by the government.

Modi aired these views while inaugurating the 'Aadi Mahotsav', a 10-day festival showcasing tribal art, cuisine, culture and traditions organised by the Union ministry of tribal welfare.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion, the prime minister further said that events like Aadi Mahotsav have become a movement in the country and he himself participates in many of them.

"Welfare of tribal society is also a matter of personal relationship and emotions for me," he said.

Underlining the contributions of the tribal society in the struggle for India's Independence, Modi lamented the attempt for decades to cover up the glorious chapters of the sacrifice and valour of the tribal community in the pages of history. He said that for the first time, the nation has finally taken steps to bring these forgotten chapters of the past to the fore.

"For the first time, the country has started celebrating Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda," Modi said.

The prime minister emphasised on the efforts of the government to promote tribal arts and skill development for the tribal youth.

Referring to the budget for 2023-24, Modi informed that the PM Visvakarma Yojna has been introduced for traditional craftsmen, where economical assistance will be provided apart from skill development and support in marketing their products.

He illustrated this by citing the aspirational districts and blocks scheme where most of the target areas have a tribal majority.

"In this year's budget, the budget given for Scheduled Tribes has also been increased by five times as compared to 2014," the prime minister informed.

Modi highlighted that the spotlight has been on the journey of tribal society in the last 8-9 years of his government, adding that it has been a witness to the change where the country is giving priority to equality and harmony.

He highlighted that this is the first time in 75 years of India's Independence that the leadership of the country is in the hands of a tribal woman who is making India proud at the highest office in the form of President.

The prime minister said that tribal history is getting much-deserved recognition in the country for the first time.

## There'll be tomorrow if there's water, says Modi as he launches Jal Jan Abhiyan

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday flagged the problem of water scarcity and said it is seen as a potential crisis in the future all over the world. He said the world is realising the seriousness of limited water resources while pointing to it in context to India's large population. "There will be a tomorrow if there is water," he said in a video message to mark the launch of Jal Jan Abhiyan of spiritual organisation Brahma Kumaris to create awareness about water conservation. Modi said India has turned water conservation into a mass movement and added Jal Jan Abhiyan will strengthen the conservation efforts through public participation. He referred to Indian sages and said they created a restrained, balanced, and sensitive system regarding nature, environment, and water thousands of years ago. "Water conservation is in the culture of our society and at the centre of our social thinking," Modi said. "That is why we consider water to be God and our rivers as mothers." He referred to the "Catch the Rain" campaign and added the depleting groundwater table is also a major challenge for the country. Modi said water conservation is being promoted through gram panchayats under the Atal Bhujal Yojana.

## All Kashmiri Pandits would return to their homeland soon: J&K LG

**Jammu, Feb 16 (IANS)** J&K Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha said that the day was not far when all Kashmiri Pandits would return to their homeland. "With God's grace, all Kashmiri Pandits would return to their homes and the day is not far," he told reporters here. Sinha said that the salaries of those Kashmiri Pandit employees, working under the PM's package in Kashmir and have rejoined their duties, have been released.

## Teenage girl in Dhanbad pushed to death from apartment rooftop by four youths

**Dhanbad, Feb 16 (IANS):** A 16-year-old girl was pushed to death from the rooftop of a four-storey apartment allegedly by four youths in Jharkhand's Dhanbad district, police said on Thursday. The incident happened in Bhelatand area in Barwadda police station area, some 170-km from state capital Ranchi, between 5.30 pm and 6 pm on Wednesday, police said. The mother of the victim has filed an FIR against four suspected youths including two named accused living in the same apartment, police said.

"On the basis of the FIR, two youths have been detained for interrogation on Wednesday night," said Deputy Superintendent of Police Amar Kumar Pandey, who is supervising the case. The girl was a student of class-12 at a Dhanbad-based convent school. The mother of the victim told the police that one boy of the apartment, who was senior to her daughter, was often seen talking to her. "I had scolded my daughter and warned her not to interact with him. On Wednesday evening, the boy was seen along with one of his friends on first floor of the apartment," the victim's mother told police.

## I-T survey at BBC offices continues for third straight day

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** The Income Tax (I-T) department's 'survey' at BBC offices in Delhi and Mumbai continued for the third consecutive day amid reports that some of its employees in the national capital haven't gone home since the process started.

According to reports, the I-T department officials have gathered data related to financial aspects like taxation and the company's structure, till now. There is no clarity on for how long the "survey" operations are going to continue, sources aware of the developments, said.

## Infiltration bid foiled, Pak trying to disturb peace in Kashmir: Army

**Srinagar, Feb 16 (IANS)** The Army has foiled an infiltration attempt in the forward area of Tangdhar sector in North Kashmir's Kupwara district, thereby preventing efforts of Pakistan to destabilise peace in Kashmir, said officers on Thursday.

On Wednesday night, alert troops deployed in an anti-infiltration grid detected a movement of three terrorists across their own side of the Line of Control (LoC) while they were approaching the LoC Fence, the Army said.

"On being challenged at close proximity to the post, an intense firefight ensued between the terrorists and the alert troops, resulting in successful elimination of one terrorist, while grievously injuring the other. The injured terrorist managed to flee to PoJK (Pakistan occupied Jammu Kashmir), alongwith the third terrorist, taking advantage of darkness," the Army said. A thorough joint search operation was launched along with Jammu and Kashmir Police in the morning, resulting in the recovery of one dead terrorist, one AK series rifle, one light automatic weapon, six magazines, two grenades and a large quantity of war-like stores. "Continued infiltration bids along the Line of Control are an uncanny reminder of Pakistan's efforts to orchestrate terrorism in Kashmir valley and disrupt peace and harmony, while putting on the facade of ceasefire understanding," the Army said.

## Bullet Train: SC agrees to examine Godrej plea

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** The Supreme Court on Thursday agreed to consider Godrej and Boyce Manufacturing Co Ltd's plea challenging the Bombay High Court judgment, which refused to entertain its petition against Maharashtra government's Rs 264 crore compensation for acquiring its land for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet train project. Counsel, representing the appellant company, mentioned the matter before a bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud for urgent hearing.

## Flag march in Panki, situation under control

**Medininagar, Feb 16 (IANS)** Para-military forces and Palamu district police staged a flag march in riot affected Panki town in Jharkhand, the scene of a clash over erection of a gate for the coming Shivratri festival, a senior police officer said on Thursday.

The flag march was staged on late on Wednesday night to instill confidence in the people and the situation in the town though tense is now well under control, Inspector General (Palamu range) Raj Kumar Lakra said. However, miscreants torched a cattle shed of a house in the town on Wednesday night. But no cattle was harmed, he said.

Altogether 13 people, including a former mukhiya (chief) of Panki west panchayat, Nehal Khan, were arrested so far in connection with the clash, Lakra said. Palamu deputy commissioner Anjaneyulu Dodde is camping at Panki to restore normalcy in the town, the scene of the clash which saw the two clashing groups brick batng and attack each other with sticks.

## AJSU Party leader shot dead ahead of Ramgarh bypoll

**Ramgarh, Feb 16 (IANS):** An AJSU Party leader was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in by-poll bound Ramgarh of Jharkhand, police said on Thursday.

Manoj Munda (32) was a block vice-president of the party in Patratu block of Ramgarh district, the police said.

He was gunned down on Wednesday night at Amjharia village, about 65 km from Ranchi, when Munda was watching the traditional cock fight in the village, the police said.

The AJSU and opposition BJP have denounced the murder and demanded the arrest of the killer/killers.

Patratu sub-divisional police officer Birendra Kumar Chaudhary confirmed the killing and said that Munda was reportedly shot at at close range and died on the spot.

AJSU party's Ramgarh district president Dilip Dangi said the murder raises doubts about free and fair election in the February 27 by-poll and demanded immediate arrest of the killers.

## Tripura polls: Over 81% turnout, several incidents of violence reported

**Agartala, Feb 16 (IANS)** Over 81 per cent of the 28.14 lakh voters in Trpura exercised their franchise till 4 p.m. as the state went to the polls on Thursday amid heavy security, election officials said.

Voter turnout was 91.82 per cent and 89.38 per cent in 2013 and 2018 Assembly elections, respectively.

"Over one lakh voters are still in the queue at many polling stations across the state even after the voting officially ended at 4 p.m. The final voting percentage might cross 86 per cent," an election official told IANS.

Many incidents of attacks on political workers, intimidation and obstruction of voters were reported from different districts.

## Teenager rescued from debris 248 hours after Turkey quake

**Ankara, Feb 16 (IANS)** Turkish rescuers have pulled a 17-year-girl from the rubble of last week's devastating earthquake, as hopes fade of finding more survivors.

Aleyna Olmez was rescued 248 hours after the 7.8-magnitude quake flattened entire cities, killing nearly 40,000 people across southeastern Turkey and parts of Syria.

"She looked to be in good health. She opened and closed her eyes," one of the people who took part in the rescue effort, said in Kahramanmaras, a city near the quake's epicentre. "We have been working here in this building for a week now... We came here with the hope of hearing sounds," he said. "We are happy whenever we find a living thing - even a cat."The girl's uncle tearfully hugged the rescuers one by one, saying: "We will never forget you."

# CM push for victory of UPA-backed Congress candidate in Ramgarh by-poll

## BJP backed AJSU candidate gears up for tough fight with ruling alliance

**Mail News Service**

**Ranchi, February 16:** Jharkhand chief minister Chief Minister Hemant Soren has given a message to all the alliance partners to go all out to ensure victory of Congress candidate Bajrang Mahato in the Ramgarh by-poll scheduled on February 27.

In this connection an meeting of top UPA leaders was held at Chief Minister's residence at Kanke Road, Ranchi on Wednesday evening to ensure the victory of the alliance candidate in the Ramgarh assembly by-election and chalk out a strategy. Hemant Soren discussed point-wise with the top leaders of UPA in view of the political equation of Ramgarh by-election and decided to enter the election field with full energy. Showing solidarity to all the leaders of the alliance, Hemant Soren once again gave the mantra to hoist the flag of victory in the Ramgarh assembly by-election. Bajrang Mahto, discussed with the Chief Minister about the campaign and other important points. Hemant Soren told all the top UPA leaders present in the meeting and workers from different blocks of Ramgarh assembly to be ready to give a befitting reply to the opponents in the Ramgarh assembly by-election. Hemant Soren also asked all the workers to remain united and put their efforts for the victory of the candidate of the alliance till the booth level. The meeting was attended by Congress president Rajesh Thakur, rural development minister Alamgir Alam, agriculture minister Badal Patralekh, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha senior leader and member state coordination committee Vinod Pandey, former MLA Fagu Besra, Yogendra Mahato, RJD state president Sanjay Singh Yadav and others.

Significantly, Ramgarh by-election is heading for a two-cornered contest between NDA-backed AJSU candidate Sunita Choudhary and ruling alliance-backed Congress candidate Bajrang Mahato.

Since the BJP has decided to support the AJSU candidate who is the wife of Giridih MP Chandra Prakash Choudhary, who had represented the Ramgarh Assembly continuously from 2005 to 2019, it would prove to be the toughest challenge for the ruling alliance-backed Congress candidate Mahato, the husband of convicted MLA Mamata Devi. In all the four bye-elections (Dumka, Madhupur, Bermo and Mandar) held under Hemant Soren-led government in the last three years, the JMM-Congress-RJD alliance won comfortably.

The Ramgarh bypoll was necessitated after the sitting Congress MLA Mamta Devi was convicted in a case at Hazaribagh Court.

AJSU spokesperson Deosharan Bhagat, however, exuded confidence in their candidate's victory.

"There is a sense of resentment among the masses as the present state government has failed to fulfil its promises and meet expectations. This will be reflected in the outcome of the bypoll. We are going house to house, campaigning for our candidate to ensure that there is a record victory for our candidate." (W-rg)

# DC inspects EVM warehouse building

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 16 :** Monthly inspection of EVM warehouse located at community building Seraikela was carried by District Election Officer cum Deputy Commissioner Arwa Rajkamal. As per the instructions of the Election Commission of India, New Delhi, the District Election Officer along with Deputy Election Officer Priyanka Singh and other officials reviewed the law and order and security arrangements of the EVM warehouse. During the inspection, he checked the CCTV cameras installed in the EVM warehouse, the condition of the building, the deployed security forces, fire fighting cylinders etc.In view of this, many necessary guidelines were given.

In the same sequence, the Deputy Commissioner also inspected the EVM warehouse building under construction in the community building complex. During this, he went to the first, second and third floors and inspected the preparation of various rooms, halls and toilets. (w-pb)

# Demand for re-opening rail gate for traffic in Padapahar

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16 :** Former CM state Madhu Koda on Wednesday sent a letter to the DRM regarding the demand for the re-opening of the rail gate for traffic at Chakradharpur Rupdapahar in West Singhbhum district. In Padapahar village, thousands of villagers cross the railway line every day to do daily wages for their daily necessities, and to go to school, college and hospital, where there is a junction of Barajamda Rail and Baspani Rail from Padapahar Railway Station, from where on both sides Hundreds of freight trains and passenger trains come and go from here every day. Further in the letter, Koda said that after the independence of the country, when the rail project was moved from this Padapahad station, the agricultural land and houses of Padapahad were taken by the railway management at that time and Danguvaposi-Baspani single line was converted into a double line. The land of Padapahar village Vasia was taken. Whose land compensation and jobs have not been given to all the people till date. For this, the villagers always corresponded with the railway management and demanded compensation and job together, but their demands and talks are not being heard till now. Further, Koda said that after independence, when the rail was laid at the time of Padapahar Rail Project, Padapahar villagers and thousands of people from Kadajamda, Ulihatu Jhirpai and Baihatu villages used to travel through this route. (w-pb)

## Hindustan Mitra Mandal School honours Lions Club of Jamshedpur India

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Hindustan Mitra Mandal School (Government Middle School) honoured members of the Lions Club of Jamshedpur India with bouquets and armbands in appreciation and gratitude for getting the school premises painted at a cost of Rupees One Lakh.

Expressing his humbleness for the honour, the President of the Lions Club of Jamshedpur India, Bharat Singh announced that his organization in association with Bharat Singh Welfare Trust would get the old school building repaired. A two-minute silence was observed in honour of the brave martyrs killed by terrorists in Pulwama on February 14, 2019. Those present in the programme included Kumar Sandesh, Sarika Singh, Bharat Singh, Anjula Singh, P. Pushpalata, Rajesh Kumar, Manoj Soni and Rajesh Singh. (w/gsd)

## Red Cross distributes nutritional food among TB patients

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Nutritional food, vitamins and medicines were distributed to TB patients as part of the TB

Free India initiative, during a function organized by the Indian Red Cross Society, East Singhbhum Chapter, at Red Cross Bhawan, Saatchi on Thursday.

As part of the proceedings, 100 packets of food and the requisite share of medicines have been distributed to TB patients hailing from the East Singhbhum district. This initiative has been supported this month by Chhaganlal Dayaljee sons, a leading jewellery house of Jamshedpur, Marwadi Mahila Manch, Jamshedpur Branch and Purabi Ghosh, a noted social activist of the city.

At the distribution event, Bijay Kumar Singh, Hony Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, East Singhbhum Branch, thanked Hardik Adeshra, Office bearers of Marwadi Mahila Manch led by Bina Agarwal, President and Purabi Ghosh. (W-mb)

## IWC East's awareness campaign for TB free India

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Inner Wheel Club of Jamshedpur East is working on various aspects to eliminate TB. Club under Nikshay Mitra has adopted three TB patients and is running TB awareness programmes.

Club organized awareness session on Tuberculosis on Thursday where 60 women from Rajak Samaj Manifit Mahila Samaj participated. On the occasion Dr Mrityunjay Dhavaria, Alam, Sujoy Pramanik and Rajeev Kumar explained in detail about the symptoms, causes and treatment of fatal tuberculosis disease.

They also mentioned the precautionary measures and proper high protein diet to be followed by the patients.

Club President Archana said that it is a small effort by the club in speeding up the country's progress towards TB eradication. Vice President Sampa, Sonali, Sanchita, Manjari, and others were present. (W-mb)

## Saraswati Shishu Mandir honoured

**Seraikela, Feb 16 :** A four-day provincial principal meeting organized by Vidya Bharti was held at Giridih. Deputy Principal Tushar Kant Pati participated in the meeting on behalf of Saraswati Shishu Mandir High School Seraikela. On this occasion, a citation was given by Vidya Bharti for the excellent performance of the school during the Corona period. Saraswati Shishu Mandir Seraikela was always ready for the development of children's education even during the Corona period. There was no decrease in the enrollment of children either. School Principal Parthasarathy Acharya congratulated the entire school family along with all the teachers for this. And said that it is not possible without everyone's cooperation. We should always be ready for the all round development of the children. (w-pb)

# Road blockade in demand for SC certificates

Mail News Service

**Jhargram, Feb 16:** Activists of Bangiya Mahad Rakshak Samaj (BMRS) on Thursday, February 16 created a road blockade at two major thoroughfares of Jhargram township, Panch Morh and Shiv Mandir Road in demand for the issue of Schdule Caste certificates held up since 1984.

As a result of the three-hour long road blockade, all traffic movement along the two roads came to a standstill. Students and parents returning from schools and colleges and other places had to undergo harrowing times. The BMRS members raised slogans for honouring their demands. They were carrying their traditional weapons, placards and flags.

Indrajit Bagal of BMRS said, "Since 1984, the Scheduled Castes certificates were issued by the Subdivision Administration to members of the Gope, Bagal, Ahir, Khilari, Ghosh and Gwala communities. But people of these communities are being deprived of various government benefits because the issue of these caste certificates was stopped since 2021."

A memorandum of demands to the effect was handed to SDO, Babulal Mahto by a BMRS delegation.

SDO Babulal Mahto assured the BMRS delegates that the caste certificates would be issued under the old method shortly.

Satisfied with the SDO's assurance BMRS workers lifted the road blockade at 4:30 pm after which, the road jam started crawling back to normal. BMRS leaders included Indrajit Bagal, Asit Gope, Durga Gope, Gurcharan Bagal, Shobharam Bagal, Sunil Ahir and others. (w/gsd)

## Fire in Sonari apartment, no casualties

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Fire broke out in a flat on the fifth floor of Vijaya Shatabdi Apartments in Sonari on Thursday. No casualty was reported in the incident.

Two fire tenders rushed to douse the fire which was reportedly caused by a short circuit, sources said.

Sources said two bachelors live in the said flat. All belongings kept in the house were gutted in the fire. (w-at)

# PSZMS Sakchi unit members demand election after Holi

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16 :** Senior members of the Sakchi branch of Purvi Singhbhum Zila Marwari Sammelan (PSZMS) in a letter to the State President of Akhil Bharatiya Marwari Sammelan (ABMS), Basant Mittal, demanded that the Sakchi unit election, slated to be held on Saturday, February 25 be postponed to another date after Holi festivities. A copy of the letter has been sent to the newly elected President of PSZMS, Mukesh Mittal. Several reasons for seeking postponement of the elections had been cited in the letter.

Basant Mittal has been requested to use the power provided to the State President of the organization under Para 4.5 of the Sammelan's Constitution that mentioned, 'In case of dispute, the decision of the Provincial President will be final and binding,' and give his assent to the postponement of the PSZMS Sakchi branch from February 25 to a date after the Holi festival so that all members of the the branch can get justice and retain their faith in the PSZMS state body.

According to the senior members of PSZMS Sakchi unit, the branch was the most important in the Sammelan's East Singhbhum District body. They stated that a dispute on election date the Sakchi branch of PSZMS could damage the infrastructure for which, the entire responsibility would fall on the State President. (w/gsd)

## PSZMS Sakchi election process commences, three purchase nomination forms

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** The election process for the post of President of Purvi Singhbhum Zila Marwari Sammelan (PSZMS) Sakchi (session 2023-'25) commenced on Thursday, February 16 as three members Suresh Kumar Kauntia and Binod Kumar Sah who purchased five sets of nomination papers each and Rajesh Kumar Sanghi bought one set. The election will be held on Saturday, February 25. This information was given by Chief Electoral Officer Bajrang Lal Agarwal. Nomination papers are to be submitted on Friday, February 17 from 4 to 6 pm. The date of withdrawal of nomination papers is Saturday February 18 evening from 5 to 6 pm. The final list of candidates will be published on Sunday, February 19. (w/gsd)

## Vishwanath gets Ustad Bismilah Khan Yuva Puraskar

**Seraikela, Feb 16:** Renowned Chhau artist Vishwanath Kumbhkar has been conferred with Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the year 2019 by Sangeet Natak Academy, new Delhi. He is associated with Acharya Chhau Nritya Vichitra. Ranjeet Acharya, Joint Director of the organization, said Union Minister Gangapuran Krishna Reddy and Sangeet Natak Academy chairperson gave the award to Vishwanath who has given over 500 Chhau performances in and outside the country. (w-at)

## School manager gets RI for raping minor

**Seraikela, Feb 16:** The court of Additional District Judge I Amit Shekhar sentenced Munna Prasd, proprietor cum manager of New Ideal Public School, Satvahini, Adityapur, to rigorous life imprisonment for raping a minor teacher of his school. It also imposed a fine of Rs 25,000 on him. A 17 year old minor girl had lodged a complaint against the accused with the Adityapur police station. She had alleged that the accused had promised to give her job and raped her multiple times. She later learnt that the accused had similarly raped several other girls. The accused also allegedly threatened her and posted her photographs on social media. (w-at)

## Tata-Itwari train mostly late

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16 :** After Corona, the operation of trains is gradually became normal. In the same sequence, the South East Railway Board announced plans to convert many passenger trains running under it into express trains. In which many passenger trains running from Tatanagar under Chakradharpur Railway Division were also converted into Parivartan Express trains. Among them there is also a Tata to Itwari passenger. Along with making this train an express train, its number and timing were also changed. But since this train became an express train, its condition has become worse than that of a passenger train. Not only this, the train is also canceled due to the work in the railway line.

## DC reviews vaccination and tagging of animals through Google Meet

**Seraikela, Feb 16 :** Deputy Commissioner Arva Rajkamal reviewed the vaccination and tagging of animals being done across the district through Google Meet. During this, the Deputy Commissioner took information related to the vaccination and tagging of animals from the District Animal Husbandry Officer. Expressing displeasure over the low vaccination and tagging done at present, the Deputy Commissioner directed to speed up the vaccination and tagging work of animals by February 15. He directed to ensure vaccination and tagging of animals such as cow, buffalo and calf above 4 months in the district at the rate of average vaccination and tagging done so far across the state. The Deputy Commissioner also asked SHG sisters to cooperate in the work so that the work of vaccination and tagging of animals could be expedited. Along with this, instructions were given to fully utilize the 50 vaccination carriers available with the department. Deputy Development Commissioner Praveen Kumar Gagrai, all Block Development Officers, District Animal Husbandry Officer, District Veterinary Surgeon, Sub-Divisional Animal Husbandry Officer, Veterinary Officers of various blocks and others were mainly present in the meeting. (w-pb)

# DDC reviews Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme

**Seraikela, Feb 16 :** Deputy Development Commissioner Praveen Kumar Gagrai reviewed the various works conducted under the Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme in the auditorium located at the District Collectorate. During this, Executive Engineer Drinking Water and Sanitation Division Ranjit Thakur and the sensors/representatives working under various schemes were present. In the course of review, the Deputy Development Commissioner reviewed the progress of the works being conducted in rural areas under MVS, SVS Plus, HVS, Cluster HVS, Cluster SBS under Jal Jeevan Mission Yojana and directed all the concerned contractors to bring corrective progress in the work. During this, he said that such schemes, which are about to start, should be completed at the earliest by the end of February or the first week of March, so that the benefits of the schemes can be availed. (w-pb)

# Tata Steel signs MoU with CSIR-CBRI for sustainable mining solutions

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16 :** Tata Steel and Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), a constituent establishment of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), have signed an MOU to collaborate on research, academic growth, and sustainable solutions in mining.

The MoU was signed by D B Sundara Ramam, Vice President Raw Materials, Tata Steel and Prof. R. Pradeep Kumar, Director CBRI in Jamshedpur in the presence of S. K. Negi, Chief Scientist CBRI, Dr Ajay Chourasia, Chief Scientist CBRI, Ashish Pippal, Scientist, CBRI, Atul Kumar Bhatnagar, General Manager Ore, Mines & Quarries, Tata Steel and other senior officials from Tata Steel and CBRI.

Talking about the development, D B Sundara Ramam said: "The collaboration with CBRI is a significant step towards our commitment to sustainable mining practices.

We are excited to work with their experts to drive innovation and find new ways to ensure the wellbeing of communities in the areas we operate. The MOU will pave the way for innovative and scientific research in mining."

Under the agreement, CBRI will provide scientific inputs to Tata Steel on slope stability analysis and control measures in mining areas, as well as affordable and sustainable green housing technologies for the rehabilitation and resettlement of families in mining areas. Additionally, the partnership will include technical training and workshops on geotechnical understanding and other scientific areas related to mining.

CBRI, located in Roorkee, Uttarakhand, is responsible for generating, cultivating, and promoting building science and technology in India as a constituent establishment of CSIR. (W-mb)

**AFFIDAVIT**

Through an Affidavitt GRN No 2315814797 Dated: 16/02/2023 from Jamshedpur Court I, SHAKUNTLA SRIVASTAVA daughter of Late HARI NARIAN LAL SRIVASTAVA and Wife of SRI HARI OM PRAKASH SRIVASTAVA, aged 81 yrs, residing at 40; NILDIH ENCLAVE, POST-GOLMURI, JAMSHEDPUR-831003, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under :-

1.That my old and maiden name is SHAKUN SRIVASTAVA.
2. That my actual & correct name is SHAKUNTLA SRIVASTAVA.
3. That by mistake my name has been mentioned as SHAKUN SRIVASTAVA in the Demat accounts listed with Axis bank & Axis Securities ref: IN 304295-14985720 & IN 304295-10264325.
4. That Mrs SHAKUN SRIVASTAVA and Mrs SHAKUNTLA SRIVASTAVA are the name of one and the same person which is myself and my
5. Date of Birth is : 01.07.1941
6. Aadhar No : 8679-7544-6671
7. Pan No: : BFUPS1236Q

I am swearing this affidavit to confirm the above facts as true and correct.

ADVOCATE

Printed and published by Vimal Agarwal on behalf of The Avenue Mail and printed at Pato Publishing House Pvt. Ltd, Plot No. NS18, Phase 4, Adityapur Industrial Area, Adityapur, Dist : Seraikela-Kharsawan, Jharkhand. and Published from Matri Bhawan, New Kalimati Road, Sakchi, Jamshedpur-831001. Editor : Vimal Agarwal. RNI No: 58974/93
Vol.-30, No.- 235 . Postal Registration No: G-50, Ph. : 0657-2439238, 2436905 email: avenuemail@gmail.com, avenuemailnews@gmail.com www.avenuemail.in

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inspects guard of honour during the Delhi Police Raising Day Parade at Parade Ground, New Police Lines on Thursday.

# Plea moved in SC citing hate speech against Hindus

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** A plea has been moved in the Supreme Court citing some recent instances of "hate speeches, utterances and statements" made against Hindus and Hindu religion by members of Muslim and Christian community, including call for "Sar Tan se Juda" (beheading).

The application has been filed through advocates Hari Shankar Jain and Vishnu Shankar Jain after taking the court's permission. The application said: "On multiple occasions, Muslim mobs have brought out processions in which they can be heard calling for beheading ('Sar Tan se Juda') and after such calls, actual incidents of beheading have taken place."

The plea said the apex court on January 13, permitted the said application with reference to

instances of some recent vintage.

The application has been filed by 'Hindu front for Justice-Trust of Lucknow through its President, Ranjana Agnihotri in a pending petition by journalist Qurban Ali.

The plea filed by Ali alleged hate speeches were made in 'Dharm Sansad' organised in Delhi and Haridwar, which resulted in filing of cases and also arrest of the accused. Agnihotri's plea said: "The present application is being filed with relevant facts and figures concerning the matter in issue. Some recent instances of hate speeches, utterances and statements made against Hindus and Hindu religion by members of Muslim and Christian community are being placed on record in a summarised form." The plea cited several instances including speech by prominent people including AIMIM MP Asaduddin Owaisi wherein he was seen at a public rally, saying: "I want to tell the police. Remember this. Yogi will not be the Chief Minister forever. Modi will not remain the Prime Minister forever. When Yogi will go back to his math, when Modi will go to the mountains, then who will come to save you. Remember, we will not forget."

The application also cited some stand-up comedians namely Munawar Faruqui, Alexander Babu, Surleen Kaur etc., claiming they blatantly made crass and insulting jokes on Hindu gods and Hindu religion.

The plea further alleged, "the buck does not stop here when it comes to blatant hatred against Hindus. Even songs of 'Qawwalis' have been made inciting hatred against Hindus and calling upon Muslims to kill Hindus".

The plea alleged that it is pertinent to mention that a movement to convert Hindus is going on in the whole of India by Muslims and Christian missionaries.

# Nikki Yadav murder case: What happened on that night?

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** The 23-year-old Nikki Yadav and her alleged killer-cum-live-in partner Sahil Gehlot were planning to elope and had even gone to Nizammudin railway station but failed to get tickets for Goa, said an official privy to investigation.

According to the official, on February 9 night, the accused Gehlot, a resident of Mitraon village, went to meet the woman at her Uttam Nagar residence where she lived with her younger sister.

"Gehlot stayed there for two-three hours and later both of them went to Nizammudin railway station. But as they could

not get tickets to Goa, they changed their plan to Himachal Pradesh and reached ISBT, Kashmere Gate," said the official.

"When the duo reached ISBT, an argument broke out between them. In between the fight, Gehlot kept receiving back-to-back calls from his family, which he says triggered him to his threshold point and he turned violent," said a source.

He then strangled Nikki with his mobile phone data cable inside the car, probably around 8 a.m on February 10. The murder was committed near the Kashmiri Gate area and Gehlot, a B. Pharma graduate, then drove with the body all the way to his dhaba near village Mitraon - a distance of around 45 km - where he stuffed it in a refrigerator and proceeded with his wedding on February 10. The disclosure by the accused is yet to be verified by police and currently, the probing team is scanning CCTV footage of the whole route to ascertain the crime sequence.

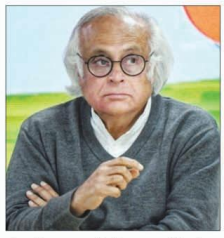
# JPC required in Adani issue as corporate-political nexus exists: Cong

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** The Congress on Thursday said that a joint parliamentary committee is required in the Adani-Hindenburg report as there is political-corporate nexus in the whole issue and only theJPC can probe the scam.

Jairam Ramesh, Congress General Secretary, said, "It is an exercise initiated by the two principal actors...the government and the Adani group... to cover up, avoid, evade and bury all genuine scrutiny."

He said that the proposed committee is a part of a carefully orchestrated exercise by these vested interests to prevent any real investigation into the Adani group's relationship with the ruling regime.

"This is supported by the fact that the Solicitor General suggested, as per news reports, that the government will



give the names for the committee in a sealed cover, for the consideration of the Supreme Court," he said.

He said that the nature of these allegations, the link between Adani and the ruling regime is examined in the full light of day by elected officials accountable to the public.

He said on February 13, the bench of the Supreme Court while hearing petitions on the Adani-Hindenburg matter, discussed the creation of a committee of experts to examine the regulatory regime post the Adani-Hindenburg expose.

"An evaluation of the regulatory and statutory regime by experts is in no manner equivalent to an investigation by a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). Such a committee, however competently staffed, cannot be a substitute for a thorough investigation into the political-corporate nexus that has come to light in the last two weeks. It simply does not have the authority, resources, or jurisdiction to examine the issues that the Opposition has raised.

# Gujarat man asks police to get criminal cases against his wife probed

**Porbandar (Saurashtra), Feb 16 (IANS)** A man in Porbandar has requested the district superintendent of police to get criminal cases against his wife investigated.

Vimal Karia, a vegetable vendor in Porbandar, was shocked to learn that his wife Rita has a criminal history. Her first husband is involved in 5,000 car thefts and that she is facing serious criminal cases like conspiracy, theft, murder, robbery, case under the Arms Act, and hunting wild animals. Police sources said Vimal's statement is recorded, and Rita's criminal history has been sought from Assam and other states. In 2021, while looking for a bride on an online platform, he came in contact with Rita, who introduced herself as Rita Das. She had claimed to be divorced but did not share divorce papers, claiming it was his child marriage so she does not possess any certificate. When he learned for the first time in 2022 that there was something fishy about his wife, he inquired and discovered that her real name is not Rita Das, but either Rita Kyabarta or Rita Chauhan, who is married to one Anil Chuahan, who is also facing a number of cases, mostly involving gangsters.

## Police complaint lodged against BJP Min Ashwath Narayan over Tipu Sultan remark

**Bengaluru, Feb 16 (IANS)** Two police complaints have been lodged against Karnataka Minister for Higher Education, IT, BT, Science and Technology Dr C.N. Ashwath Narayan on Thursday over his controversial statement to "finish off" Opposition leader Siddaramaiah.

Minister Narayan had issued the controversial statement during a public programme in Satanur of Mandya district. "Siddaramaiah will come to the place of Tipu Sultan (erstwhile ruler of Mysuru). Do you want Veer Savarkar or Tipu Sultan? You have to decide. You know what Uri Gowda and Nanje Gowda (soldiers who fought Tipu Sultan) did to Tipu Sultan. Likewise, he (Siddaramaiah) should be finished off." The statement had stirred a controversy in the state. Congress leader Manohar and others have lodged a complaint with Malleshwaram police station in Bengaluru and demanded that an attempt to murder case should be registered against him. Siddaramaiah Fan's Association has lodged a complaint with Gokul Road Police Station in Hubballi city against him and urged the police to take immediate action. The police have accepted the complaints and taken up the investigation.

# PM to visit Meghalaya ahead of Assembly polls

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Ahead of the Assembly election at the end of this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit poll-bound Meghalaya on February 24.

According to sources, PM Modi will address a rally in Tura on February 24. The same day, he is scheduled to hold a roadshow as a part of an election campaign in Shillong, where the BJP hopes to secure large vote shares.

"The PM will also address a public rally to give a boost to the election campaign. Meeting with state BJP leaders is also in the schedule", the sources

added. This will be his first visit to Meghalaya this year.

The BJP's election plank has been development and employment in the state with little of either. These, along with corruption, have been the themes in speeches of Union minister and ex-Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal, who campaigned in Meghalaya recently.

## BJP's Kausar Jahan elected Haj Committee Chairman, setback to AAP

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** In a major setback to the Aam Aadmi Party, BJP candidate Kausar Jahan was elected as the new chairman of the Delhi Haj Committee.

The committee organises Islamic pilgrimages to Saudi Arabia. Kausar Jahan is the second woman to hold this position. Former Delhi Congress chief Tajdar Babar was the only woman till now to have held this post.

Lt. Governor V.K. Saxena had on January 6 constituted the Delhi State Haj Committee for a period of three years. The Delhi State Haj Committee comprises one member of Parliament, two members from Delhi Legislative Assembly, one Muslim member from the local body, one Muslim member with the knowledge of Muslim theology and one Muslim member from any Muslim Voluntary organisation.

# Goa Congress seeks apology from Tourism Minister for misspelling church name

**Panaji, Feb 16 (IANS)** The Congress has sought ab apology from Goa Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte for allegedly insulting religious sentiments by mispelling the name of the Holy Spirit Church in the carnival advertisement issued on social media.

A curtain raiser programme of the Carnaval will take place on February 17. In this regard, the Tourism Department has released advertisement of scheduled programmes from February 17 to 21, wherein at one place it has mentioned "Holi Sprit Church". "It is a shame that the insensitive and irresponsible BJP Government does not know to write the names of religious shrines properly. Tourism Department must stop insulting religious sentiments," Congress state General Secretary, Viriato Fernandes said.

Reacting sharply to the spelling errors in the advertisement, he said: "I demand that the said advertisement must be withdrawn immediately and Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte must apologise to the Goans for insulting religious sentiments."

## Man held at IGI with gold worth Rs 90 L

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** A man was held at Indira Gandhi International Airport with smuggled gold worth over Rs 90 lakh, customs officials said on Thursday.

A senior customs official said that the man was intercepted on the basis of profiling.

The personal search of the passenger resulted in recovery of two strips wrapped with white adhesive tape containing brown coloured paste in a transparent packing.

## Punjab mulling adopting Telangana model for groundwater conservation: Mann

Hyderabad, Feb 16 (IANS) In a move to check the depleting groundwater table, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Thursday announced exploring the feasibility to replicate Telangana model for the conservation of this precious natural resource and recharging the water table in the state. The Chief Minister, along with officers of the Irrigation Department, analysed the Telangana model of water conservation here. He said it is a revolutionary model that is aimed at recharging the water table holistically.

The Telangana government has constructed small dams in villages for conserving the groundwater across the state, and he said as a result of this, the groundwater level has increased up to two metres in the villages.

The Chief Minister said the need of the hour is to channelise canal water in Punjab. "The sole motive of examining this model is to check the depletion of groundwater level for the sake of future generations."

Mann also took an insightful view of new techniques about saving rapidly decreasing groundwater during his visit to dams and lauded this new and unique way to save the water on one hand and to increase the level of groundwater on the other.

**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**

**E-Tender Notice No. T40-DOMCKP23 dated 15.02.2023.** For & on behalf of the President of India, Senior Divisional Operations Manager, S.E. Railway, Chakradharpur invites E-tender for the following works: **Name of the work :** Hiring of one (01) Non-AC commercially registered road vehicle – four wheeler (like Mahindra-Scorpio, Bolero, Maruti Suzuki-Ertiga, Inova, Vitara Brezza, XL6 or similar) for the use of Divisional Operations Manager, CKP of Chakradharpur Division of South Eastern Railway with fuel and driver round the clock for a period of 36 (thirty six) months on e Tender basis. **Advertised Value :** ₹ 16,03,735.20. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 32,100. **Date & Time for Closing of e-Tender :** 13.03.2023 at 15:00 hrs. **Website Particulars : www.ireps.gov.in N.B.:** Manual tender will not be accepted. Contractor to submit online tender at **www.ireps.gov.in**

**(PR-1129)**

## 'Team Jorge' meddling in Indian political system: Congress

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Congress Thursday alleged that "Team Jorge" has been used by the Modi government, which is meddling into the Indian political system, just like the Cambridge Analytica and Pegasus. Addressing a press conference here, Congress leader Pawan Khera, said "Just like Pegasus and Cambridge Analytica - a group of hackers by the code name of "Team Jorge" meddled in the Indian elections and political systems. "Is there a link between the Fake News Portal Post Card News & 'Team Jorge' - A team of Israeli contractors who claim to have manipulated more than 30 elections around the world using hacking, sabotage and automated disinformation on social media?" Khera raised questions over the hackers' team, and said, "Is BJP taking the help of Israeli Contract Hackers to meddle in the Indian political system by spreading massive disinformation on Digital Media?

# Maurya alleges murderous attack, seeks security

**Lucknow, Feb 16 (IANS)** Samajwadi Party leader Swami Prasad Maurya has written a letter to the Lucknow Police Commissioner, alleging murderous attack by Mahant Raju Das and his supporters.

Maurya said that Mahant Raju Das, Mahant Paramhans Das and their supporters of Tapasvi Chawni tried to attack him in Lucknow with swords and axes.

He has also demanded security, referring to the threat given by Raju Das in the past when Das had declared a reward for beheading Maurya.

Maurya, who came to participate in a programme of a TV channel, also questioned the arrangement of hotel and said, "In a secure establishment like the hotel where mobiles, luggage, clothes are searched. In such a situation, these people were waiting for me with sharp weapons. This indicates a bigger conspiracy."

## Delhi court sends conman Sukesh to 9-day ED custody

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** A Delhi court has sent alleged conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar to Enforcement Directorate (ED)'s custody after the agency arrested him in a fresh case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) related to cheating former Religare promoter Malvinder Singh's wife Japna.

Chandrshekhar had allegedly duped Japna of Rs 3.5 crore promising her that he would use that money to bail her husband out of jail, who is lodged in jail in connection with an alleged misappropriation of funds at Religare Finvest Limited (RFL) case.

Chandrashekhar had also allegedly defrauded Malvinder's brother Shivinder Singh's wife with Japna.

He had cheated Shivender's wife Aditi and Japna of several crores while posing as an officer from the Union Law Ministry and ensuring that he would secure bail for their husbands.

**NOTICE**

This is to inform that Tata Steel Limited, Jamshedpur has been accorded Environmental Clearance vide EC Identification No. EC23A037JH170166 dated 13.02.2023 from Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India New Delhi for "Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Management Facility".

The copy of environmental clearance letter is available on website of Ministry's website: https:/164.100.213.216/Esign/Esign/ECL_AUTH_47F101_IA_JH_INFRA2_41593_2022.pdf

Tata Steel Limited, Jamshedpur
Jharkhand - 831001

# I am like your son, support me: Shivakumar makes another appeal to Vokkaligas

**Mysuru, Feb 16 (IANS)** With Karnataka's ruling BJP attempting to woo the Vokkaligas ahead of the Assembly polls, Congress state President D.K. Shivakumar has made an emotional appeal to the community which plays a key role in determining the poll winners.

Taking up campaigning through Prajadhvani Yatra in H.D. Kote taluk on Wednesday night, Shivakumar has told the Vokkaligas that "he is like their son".

"I am like the son from the house of the Vokkaliga community. Support me," he said.

Shivakumar had earlier stated in Bengaluru that he is a Vokkaliga from the Congress who has a good chance of becoming the Chief Minister as he support of the community which has backed JD-S chief and former PM H.D. Deve Gowda and former Union Minister S.M. Krishna. He also stated that it is after 20 years that Congress is projecting a Vokkaliga candidate for the post of the CM.

Rahul Gandhi has expressed support to Shivakumar, saying that he had made sacrifices for the party. He however will face stiff competition from Leader of Opposition and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for the CM's post if Congress is voted to power.

Insiders say that Shivakumar had invited the wrath of BJP central leadership by coming in their way of capturing power in Maharashtra. The CBI and ED have conducted multiple raids on the residence and offices of Shivakumar and presently he is facing more than 40 cases against him.

Spectators during the 4th day of Aero India 2023, at Yelahanka Air Base in Bengaluru on Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023.

## Financial security for family becomes India's top life goal post pandemic

**New Delhi/Ranchi, Feb 16**: Leading private life insurer, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance today unveiled the second edition of its flagship survey Bajaj Allianz Life India's Life Goals Preparedness Survey 2023, which identifies the Life Goals and aspirations of Indians. It is designed to capture a complete picture of the India's Life Goals, aspirations, influencers, and readiness towards achieving these goals. The comprehensive study maps over 40 Life Goals and evaluates how Indians are preparing themselves to achieve these goals.

Providing financial security for the family emerges as the top Life Goal for Indians post-pandemic with 71% Indians prioritizing it over other goals. Retirement planning, leading a balanced lifestyle, and providing for children's education continue to feature among the top Life Goals, finds the Bajaj Allianz Life India's Life Goals Preparedness Survey 2023. New focus areas like career growth, travelling abroad and ensuring adequate care for ageing parents are also emerging as important Life Goals for Indians. Interestingly, the average number of goals increased from 5 in 2019 to 11 in 2023.

Life Goals Preparedness Index, which is a function of confidence, knowledge and action taken towards financial planning for one's Life Goals, stood at 47 as Indians aspire for more Life Goals post the pandemic.

## J&K LG inaugurates Forest Resource Management Centre

**Jammu, Feb 16 (IANS)** Jammu and Kashmir Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday inaugurated the Forest Resource Management Centre (FRMC) at Narwal in J&K, and also launched the National Transit Pass System.

Sinha said that the new state-of-the-art facility and the technological advancements would go a long way in ensuring required protection and management of forests.

The FRMC has been planned to scale up the use of modern technology such as GIS, Remote Sensing and digital tools like mobile application in protection and management of forests. The centre is expected to play a key role in the digitalisation of the forest boundary and for the management of forests through geo reference based information and mapping. Jammu and Kashmir is the third union territory/state to implement the National Transit Pass System in the country, which replaces manual paper-based transit system by online transit system and promotes agro-forestry activities which in turn would help in increasing farmer's income, noted Sinha.

# 5-day-old infant operated on to correct rare skull defect in Mumbai hospital

**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** An infant boy, born with a rare skull defect, was successfully operated on - when five days old - to repair his skull and scalp at a Mumbai hospital, doctors said on Thursday.

The child was born Afreen Khan and Sanaulla Khan, hailing from Tamil Nadu, in a private nursing home in Andheri east last December, but their joy was short-lived as the infant was found to suffer from 'aplasia cutis congenita', where the baby's scalp skin and skull bones were not fully developed in the central area of the head, leaving the underlying areas of the brain and its covering visible.

To correct this, he had to undergo a challenging scalp rotation and advancement flaps when he was barely 100-hours old.

The infant was brought to the Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital in early January and admitted to the neonatal ICU, under the care of Dr. Nilesh Satbhai, the hospital's Consultant Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon.

The team assessed him in detail, took all emergency resuscitative measures and the plans were made by the neurosurgery and plastic surgery teams for the further treatment.

"This baby boy was born with a very rare deformity 'aplasia cutis congenita' and a large portion of the vital areas of the brain was left exposed. This is a very rare anomaly in which part of the scalp skin along with the skull bones is not developed, and the protective layers of the skull covering the brain are not formed," Dr Satbhai said.

He said that depending on the severity and associated morbidities, the reported case fatality rate of the condition is 20-50 per cent.

"In this child, the skin, soft tissue, and bones over the vertex of the skull were absent, the dura mater covering the brain was exposed and the problem was identified immediately after birth. There is a high chance of infection or meningitis developing in such a situation. Also, the large blood vessels in the brain can get infected, or ruptured, leading to bleeding and complications. We operated on the child for four hours on the 5th day of his life," said Dr. Satbhai.

For this, the medical team elevated 2 large flaps from the remaining scalp of the child's head, carried out scalp rotation and advancement flap surgery to transpose and rotate the flaps across the midline to cover the entire skin defect and protect the dura mater and underlying brain.

The flaps survived and healed well, resulting in complete coverage of the scalp skin defect, the child was strictly monitored, given meticulous post-operative ICU care and was finally discharged after 14 days, with the wounds healing well.

"Surgery in infants is always challenging, as the tissues are thin and delicate. We take pride in delivering successful treatment outcomes in paediatric patients with rare conditions, using advanced medical technologies to provide precise diagnoses and effective treatment," Wadia Hospitals CEO Dr. Minnie Bodhanwala said.

For the overjoyed parents, they recalled how their happiness after child birth turned to horror on seeing the exposed brain of their infant.

"However, the medical team at Wadia Hospital correctly detected the rare condition and treated our baby without delay. We are extremely happy and thank them for successfully treating our son," said Afreen Khan, caring for her son who has emerged from a nightmarish situation.

# IIT-B student's death: Mumbai Police quiz kin, candle marches in Guj on Feb 19

**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** A three-member team of Mumbai Police on Thursday met the family members of Darshan Solanki, a student of IIT-Bombay who ended his life on the Powai campus on February 12 - and recorded their statements, a family member said.

The police called on Solanki's family members at their home in Maninagar on the outskirts of Ahmedabad on Thursday morning and posed various questions pertaining to 18-year-old Solanki's sudden death.

Simultaneously, several student bodies in Gujarat will hold a peace procession which will culminate with a candle-lit march to pay homage to Solanki, the relative told IANS, but declined to be quoted.

The procession and candle march will be held in Ahmedabad and several other cities of Gujarat between 6.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. on Sunday, he added.

A day before, the distraught family had expressed suspicions of foul play behind the extreme measure taken by Solanki - who hailed from a Dalit family - shocking the educational circles all over the country.

The police had earlier recorded the family's initial statements and are now questioning other students and hostelites on various aspects, including allegations of caste discrimination, which the IIT-B management has officially denied.

## Three trampled to death as elephant goes berserk in Gorakhpur

**Gorakhpur (UP), Feb 16 (IANS)** Three persons, including a child, were trampled to death by an elephant who went berserk in a 'yagya' pandal in a village in UP's Gorakhpur district on Thursday, officials said. The incident occured in Mohammadpur Mafi village, located in Jagatbela of Chiluatal police station area and the deceased include a man, a woman and a child. According to reports, the elephant was a part of the rituals being held in the pandal and it appears that the noise was a major irritant for the tusker. Suddenly, it broke loose and started running around and he trampled three persons to death. Several others were injured in the incident. As soon as the information was received, the police and Forest Department officials, led by Commissioner, ADG, DIG and SSP reached the spot with heavy police force. It took considerable effort for the forest team to control the elephant. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who is in Gorakhpur, has announced compensation of Rs five lakh each to the kin of the deceased persons.

## Erode East bypoll: Unauthorised election offices of AIADMK, DMK sealed

**Chennai, Feb 16 (IANS)** Election officials sealed ten election offices of the ruling DMK and four election offices of the opposition AIADMK set up for the Erode East bypoll as they lacked permission. AIADMK leader and former Law Minister CVe Shanmugham had lodged complaints with the Chief Electoral Officer and District Election Officer stating that the DMK had erected 120 temporary election offices across the constituency and confined the voters in these makeshift sheds throughout the day. The Flying Surveillance teams of the Election Commission inspected the electoral offices of DMK and AIADMK and found that 10 DMK offices and 4 AIADMK offices were functioning without taking permission.

# UP CM orders SIT probe into Kanpur Dehat deaths

**Lucknow, Feb 16 (IANS)** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has ordered setting up of a Special Investigation Team (SIT), led by Kanpur divisional commissioner and additional director general, Kanpur Zone, to probe the deaths of a mother and daughter during an eviction drive in Kanpur Dehat. The SIT will submit an interim report in a week. The state government also announced a relief of Rs 10 lakh to the victim's family. "For the proper treatment of the injured sons, an assistance of Rs 5 lakh each (total Rs 10 lakh) has been provided to the family by the government," an official spokesman said. Security has also been provided to the family by the government. The incident has caused an uproar in political circles. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra had tweeted that the "spectacle of inhumanity on the bulldozer of the BJP government has become a threat to humanity and sensitivity". BSP chief Mayawati said that the Kanpur Dehat incident is being talked about more than the state government's Global Investors Summit which was advertised so much. She said the BJP government's policy to use bulldozers is meant to intimidate people and make them helpless. "In a big state like UP, which has been hit hard by poverty, unemployment, inflation and backwardness, the government's bulldozer policy is causing deaths of even the poor and the innocent. This is extremely unfortunate and condemnable," she said. Meanwhile, Rura police station in-charge Dinesh Gautam, accused in the case, under whose jurisdiction the incident occurred, has been suspended with immediate effect. Principal Secretary (Home), Sanjay Prasad, said that Kanpur Divisional Commissioner Raj Shekhar has been authorised to select other members of the SIT in consultation with ADG, Kanpur, Alok Singh and complete the investigations in a stipulated time frame. "Officials from Kanpur Dehat to Lucknow are in action on this incident that took place in Kanpur Dehat. In this sequence, the teams of the development and revenue departments will visit the site soon," the official added.

These teams will complete the proceedings related to housing, old age pension and agricultural land lease there. A total of 39 individuals, including SDM Maitha, the in-charge of Rura police station, four Lekhpals, a qanungo, a JCB driver, besides locals of Madauli and 27 unidentified persons have already been booked under murder and other charges in connection with the incident.

## Ground breaking ceremony in UP before Diwali

**Lucknow, Feb 16 (IANS)** The Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh will hold a ground-breaking ceremony for MoUs signed during the recent Global Investors' Summit (GIS) before Diwali.

Chief secretary Durga Shankar Mishra has asked officials to chase all investment proposals to convert them into projects on the ground.

The chief secretary has asked officials to review progress of every MoU at regular intervals with a view to converting the proposals into actual investments and resolve issues of investors, if any.

Officials have also been asked to ensure entry of authentic data on indicators of aspirational blocks, make weekly spot visits to village panchayats and work on speedy execution of the ongoing Jal Jivan Mission.

## Woman Mercedes driver hits woman on road, arrested

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** A woman Mercedes driver has been arrested for hitting a woman standing on the road in east Delhi's Anand Vihar area, police said on Thursday.

The accused has been identified as Nupur Gupta, a resident of Yojna Vihar.

According to police, the incident occurred on Sunday and the victim has been identified as Akshita Aggarwal, a resident of Jhilmil area.

Aggarwal was standing in front of gate number-4 of Rishabh Vihar along with her younger sister Kanishka, waiting to catch a rickshaw for Karkardooma metro station, when a black coloured Mercedes car came from the Vivek Vihar side and hit her, following which she fell on the road.

"Later, the driver drove her car over the right leg of the victim. The woman driver came out of the vehicle after stopping the car near the spot but she fled when she saw the victim crying on the spot," a senior police official said.

"The victim could not notice the registration number of the vehicle. However, a case under Sections 279 (rash driving) and 338 (causing grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others) of the Indian Penal Code was registered in Anand Vihar police station," the official added.

# KTR raises objection to proposed Data Embassies in Gujarat

**Hyderabad, Feb 16 (IANS)** Telangana's Minister for Information Technology K.T. Rama Rao on Thursday wrote a letter to the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, raising serious objections against the Budget proposal for establishing the Data Embassies in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT city).

The minister detailed the "huge risks" involved in establishing International Data Embassies at one location, that too in a state highly prone to earthquakes. The letter also highlights the advantages that Hyderabad holds as an ideal location for data centres.

Moreover, this move might pose a security threat as the proposed location is in a state sharing a border with another country.

The Minister suggested that the interests of the client countries should also be considered while choosing the location of the Data Embassies.

KTR said that Hyderabad is in Seismic Zone-II, one of the least active seismic zones in India, which makes the city an ideal location for setting up data centres. "In contrast, GIFT city is located in Seismic Zone-III and is very close to Seismic Zone-IV, indicating that the region is at a high risk for earthquakes. Developing international data embassies in such an area presents potential risks and could have significant consequences for international relations if critical infrastructure is impacted," KTR added.

The minister said that after due diligence, global data centre majors chose Telangana to invest in setting up their large data centres.

From Amazon Web Services to Microsoft Azure, the state is now home to several hyperscale and edge data centres.

The minister said that the state government launched its Data Centre Policy in 2016, and offered several important incentives and approval provisions to facilitate the setting up of data centres. Access to dual power grids, low-cost power supply and a high-speed fibre network are a few such provisions.

"The overall experience of the companies which have invested in Telangana has been extremely positive. The State will be happy to provide similar support to International Data Embassies," the Minister remarked.

Further, KTR urged the Union Finance Minister to modify the Budget proposal to provide them with multiple locations that would suit their data security requirements.

KTR said that it would provide a level playing field for data infrastructure among the states.

Tribal Chhau dancers performed Goddess Durga's epic episode on defeating demon king Mahishasur during the opening ceremony of Chief Minister Sports Meet at Birsa Munda Football Stadium in Ranchi on Thursday, February 16.

## Cops to get first aid training

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 16:** Seraikela-Kharsawan district police officials will get first-aid training at a training camp going to be organized at the Police Lines on 17th February.

The camp will start at 11 am. This was informed here on Thursday by the district Civil Surgeon Dr Vijay Kumar.

He said a team of district health officials had been set up to impart the training. (w-at)

Sahiyas form the 24 district of Jharkhand organised a protest rally at Morhabadi Ground in Ranchi on Thursday, February 16 against the Jharkhand Chief Minister in demand for pay hike and permanent jobs. More than 50,000 Sahiyas from the 24 districts of the state went on strike to press home their demands.

## BJP Meeting on organisational issues

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 16 :** A meeting at the BJP district office under the chairmanship of Seraikela Assembly Core Committee Convener Manoj Kumar Chaudhary. Addressing the meeting, Uday Singhdev, in-charge of the Lok Sabha Migration Scheme, while addressing the members of the Core Committee threw light on the organizational issues. He talked about fixing the responsibility at the assembly level. Ashok Sarangi, convenor of Vidhansabha Core Committee, emphasized on verification of power centers and booths. Former Assembly candidate Ganesh Mahali, Central Working Committee member Ramesh Hansda and Adityapur Deputy Mayor Amit Singh also addressed the meeting. The meeting was mainly attended by former Zilla Parishad President Shakuntala Mahali, BN Singh, Raja Singhdev, Satya Prakash Mahato, Sohan Singh, Kumud Ranjan, Abhijeet Dutta, Vinay, Kanchan, Satish Sharma, Ritika Mukhi, Roopa Pati, Badrinarayan Daroga, Manoj Mahato , Hare Krishna Pradhan, Krishna Pradhan were mainly present. (w-pb)

## Harvinder Jamshedpuri to hand over 1000 copies of Rahat Maryada to CGPC

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16 :** Sikh preacher Harvinder Singh Jamshedpuri has welcomed the initiative of CGPC to implement Rahat Maryada in all Gurdwaras and announced that he will hand over 1000 copies of the book Rahat Maryada to the Central Gurdwara Management Committee.

Making the announcement on Thursday, Jamshedpuri said that the initiative taken by CGPC chief Bhagwan Singh to implement Rahat Maryada is commendable and he also wants to be a part of this positive campaign. For this initiative, Jamshedpuri has expressed its desire to present one thousand copies of Rahat Maryada while thanking Sardar Bhagwan Singh, Chief Sevadar of CGPC, from the bottom of his heart, so that the Sangat associated with Gurdwaras can be made aware of Rahat Maryada. Could Harvinder said that only a person full of dignity is the true Sikh of the Guru and if Sikh dignity is implemented in all Gurdwara Sahib, then the difference in Sikh principles from birth to death will be clearly understood. From the birth rituals of children to the rituals of the dead, what a Sikh should do, will get to learn with dignity. (w-pb)

## Doctors perform vasectomy on youth suffering from hydrocele

**Patna, Feb 16 (IANS)** The negligence of the health department surfaced once again in Bihar's Kaimur district where doctors at a primary health centre performed vasectomy on an unmarried youth suffering from hydrocele.Vasectomy, or vasoligation, is an elective surgical procedure for male sterilisation or permanent contraception.

## Workshop 'Factshala' at Karim City College

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16 :** A workshop titled 'Factshala' was organised on Thursday at the Department of Mass Communication, Karim City College, Sakchi, Jamshedpur. The event was organised undet information literacy program operated by Datalead in collaboration with the Google News Initiative. In this, the trainer and journalist, Antara Bose gave detailed information to the students about the verification of messages coming on social media, information coming from unknown persons or mobile numbers etc. She said that do not blindly trust any message coming on social media or going viral, but verify it. If the information passes the test of verification, then only send it to others. Otherwise it can also cause damage. Antara also said the students about critical thinking and fact checking tools. She said that before forwarding any information, see its source and check whether that information should be forwarded or not. Misinformation, disinformation and mail information were also explained in the workshop. Before this, Dr. Neha Tiwari, Head of Mass Communication Department of the college, spoke on the objectives of the programme. (w-pb)

Anti Terrorist Sqaud (ATS) Commandos take part in mock drill ahead of G20 Summit at Five Star Radisson Blu Hotel in Ranchi on Thursday, February 16, 2023


**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**
**लघु वितरणी प्रमंडल संख्या–5, डिमना, जमशेदपुर– 831020**
(Email – eemdd5dim.chandil@gmail.com)

**ई० प्रोक्यूरमेंट नोटिस**

ई० निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं० :WRD/MDD5/DIMNAJSR/ SBD-04/2022-23

दिनांक : 16.02.2023

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | कार्य का नाम | : | Construction of Sub-Minor/Water course by UGPL with 17 Nos. of HR of OR-43 Ex. Km. 93.832 of CLMC. |
| 2. | प्राक्कलित राशि | : | रू० 23,64,31,480=96लाख (रूपये तैईस करोड़ चौसठ लाख एकतीस हजार चार सौ अस्सी एवं पैसे छियानवे) मात्र |
| 3. | कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि | : | 24 माह |
| 4. | वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय | : | दिनांक 21.02.2023 को 12:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न |
| 5. | निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय | : | दिनांक 15.03.2023 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक। |
| 6. | अग्रधन की राशि | : | रू० 23.65लाख (रू० तैईस लाख पैंसठ हजार) मात्र |
| 7. | अग्रधन एवं परिमाण विपत्र की राशि जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय | : | दिनांक 16.03.2023 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक। |
| 8. | निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय | : | दिनांक 17.03.2023 को अपराह्न 12:30 बजे। |
| 9. | निविदा प्रकाशित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का पद एवं पता | : | ई० दयासागर मेंज, कार्यपालक अभियंता, लघु वितरणी प्रमंडल संख्या–5, डिमना, जमशेदपुर। |
| 10. | ई० प्रोक्यूरमेंट पदाधिकारी का दूरभाष संख्या | : | +91–8102586956 |
| 11. | ई० प्रोक्यूरमेंट सेल का दूरभाष संख्या | : | 0657 – 2371765 |

नोट :प्राक्कलित राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है। सिर्फ ई० निविदा स्वीकार होगा।
विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए हमारे वेबसाईट http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in देखें।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
लघु वितरणी प्रमंडल संख्या–5,डिमना, जमशेदपुर

PR 290466 Water Resource(22-23).D



**कार्यालय, कार्यपालक अभियंता**
**लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल सरायकेला**

**निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या - 27/2022-23**
**( UNTIED )**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | विभाग का नाम | :– | **जल संसाधन विभाग** (लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल सरायकेला) |
| 2 | विज्ञापन दाता का नाम | :– | कार्यपालक अभियंता, लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल सरायकेला। |
| 3 | परिमाण विपत्र की बिक्री की तिथि | :– | **14.03.2023 से 15.03.2023** तक (कार्यालय अवधि में ) |
| 4 | निविदा प्राप्त करने की तिथि एवं समय | :– | **17.03.2023** को **3.00** बजे अपराह्न तक। |
| 5 | निविदा खोलने की तिथि | :– | **17.03.2023** को **3.30** बजे अपराह्न । |
| 6 | परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री का स्थान | :– | कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल सरायकेला। |
| 7 | निविदा प्राप्ति एवं निविदा खोलने का स्थान | :– | कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल सरायकेला। |
| 8. | कार्य का विस्तृत विवरणी | :– | |

| क्र० | प्रखण्ड | योजना का नाम | प्राक्कलित राशि (रू० में) | अग्रधन की राशि (रू० में) | परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रू० में) | कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | ईचागढ | ईचागढ प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत चिमटीया के ग्राम तामारी में तालाब का जिर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1922950.00 | 38500.00 | 5000.00 | 03 माह |
| 2 | ईचागढ | ईचागढप्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत नदीसाई के ग्राम कुटाम में तालाब का जिर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1379700.00 | 28000.00 | 2500.00 | 03 माह |
| 3 | ईचागढ | ईचागढ प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत गुदडी के ग्राम गुदडी टोला, जाहेरडीह में तालाब का जिर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1796500.00 | 36000.00 | 5000.00 | 03 माह |
| 4 | ईचागढ | ईचागढ प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंचायत गुदडी ग्राम हुंडी में तालाब का जिर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1273700.00 | 25500.00 | 2500.00 | 03 माह |
| 5 | राजनगर | राजनगर प्रखंड अन्तर्गत पंचायत टीटीडीह ग्राम बाँधडीह में तालाब का जीर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1097300.00 | 22000.00 | 2500.00 | 03 माह |
| 6 | राजनगर | राजनगर प्रखंड अन्तर्गत पंचायत बांदु के ग्राम रिचीतुगा में तालाब का जीर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1130400.00 | 23000.00 | 2500.00 | 03 माह |
| 7 | राजनगर | राजनगर प्रखंड अन्तर्गत पंचायत जुमुल के ग्राम ईचागरा में सरकारी तालाब का जीर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1710900.00 | 34500.00 | 5000.00 | 03 माह |
| 8 | नीमडीह | नीमडीह प्रखंड अन्तर्गत ग्राम पंचायत चेतियामा ग्राम चेतियामा में तालाब का जीर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1501800.00 | 30500.00 | 5000.00 | 03 माह |
| 9 | नीमडीह | नीमडीह प्रखंड अन्तर्गत ग्राम पंचायत झीमडी के ग्राम झीमडी में तालाब का जीर्णोद्धार कार्य। | 1532000.00 | 31000.00 | 5000.00 | 03 माह |

निविदा की शर्तें कार्यपालक अभियंता, लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला के सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला

PR 290449 Water Resource (22-23)_D


# Shrachi Greens to redefine real estate sector in Jamshedpur

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16 :** Shrachi- one of the leading real estate developers in the country, known for its timely deliveries and unmatched construction quality, is all set to usher a new beginning in the real estate sector with its project Shrachi Greens. Located on Pardih Road, Mango, the project is spread across 8.14 acres. While 7.2 acres of land will be used for housing projects, rest has been earmarked for commercial use.

The officials of Shrachi said that a total of 706 housing units will be constructed comprising 2 to 6 BHK under 10 towers. About 45 duplexes will also be a part of the project. The plan is to complete the project by 2025 December 10.

"At Shrachi Greens, our spaces are not just built for the present-day but are crafted to enrich the neighbourhoods in which they are located perpetually. We achieve this through our commitment to excellence in design, sensitive landscaping, and sustainable construction practices that perfectly complement the hill-like climate throughout the town of Jamshedpur. Our homes are therefore designed to blend," said Poonam Tharar, chief marketing officer.

She added: " We have always been committed to conserving energy, and reducing water and waste, be it on our construction sites, in our hotels, offices or the homes that we build, in keeping with our commitment to sustainable luxury and conscious living we at Shrachi with our newest project, Greens, bring to you a habitat within nature. Each of our spaces is constructed using materials with sustainable properties thereby reducing the impact on the environment."

The key features of the project are Children's Play Zone, Community Hall, Exclusive Club, Indoor Swimming Pool, Indoor Games Room, Multi-Level Car Parking, World Class Gymnasium and Landscape Gardens.

"Our project has been designed with the resident's comfort as priority and will set new parameters of excellence not only in quality of lifestyle alone, but also in its elaborate addition and superbly laid plan for every strata of society. Care is accorded to include wide open spaces, and incorporating existing trees and planting new saplings. Numerous green features to help lessen the impact on the environment while increasing the quality of life," said another official.


**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**
**भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा**

**अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या–BCD/CHAIBASA/68 / वर्ष 2022–23**
**2nd Call**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | विज्ञापनदाता का नाम एवं पता | :– | कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा। |
| 2. | परिमाण विपत्र की बिक्री की तिथि | :– | दिनांक 22 / 02 / 2023 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे से अपराह्न 1:00 बजे तक । |
| 3. | निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय | :– | दिनांक 23 / 02 / 2023 को अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक । |
| 4. | निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय | :– | दिनांक 23 / 02 / 2023 को अपराह्न 3:30 बजे । |
| 5. | परिणाम विपत्र बिक्री की स्थान | :– | (क) अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, छोटानागपुर अंचल, राँची। (ख) प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा, (ग) सहायक अभियंता, भवन अवर प्रमंडल, चाईबासा।(प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय) |
| 6. | निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान– | :– | (क) अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग,छोटानागपुर अंचल, राँची। (ख) प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा, (ग) सहायक अभियंता, भवन अवर प्रमंडल, चाईबासा।(प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय) |

7. कार्यों का विवरणी :–

| क्र० सं० | प्रखण्ड | कार्य का नाम | प्राक्कलित राशि | अग्रधन की राशि | परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य | कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | जगन्नाथपुर | गुमरिया पंचायत के ग्राम पाड़सा के Primary School Parsa विद्यालय में 3 कमरों भवन का नवनिर्माण का कार्य । | 2610800 | 52500 | 5000 | 06 माह |
| 2 | नोवामुण्डी | बम्बाताई ग्राम के DPEP PS Pandraibera विद्यालय में 2 कमरों भवन का नवनिर्माण का कार्य । | 2056200 | 41500 | 5000 | 06 माह |
| 3 | नोवामुण्डी | जेटेया पंचायत के PS Diurisai विद्यालय में 2 कमरों भवन का नवनिर्माण का कार्य । | 2056200 | 41500 | 5000 | 06 माह |
| 4 | नोवामुण्डी | जेटेया पंचायत के UMS Aikuti विद्यालय में 2 कमरों भवन का नवनिर्माण का कार्य । | 2056200 | 41500 | 5000 | 06 माह |

- विद्युत मदों के कार्य हेतु उर्जा विभाग द्वारा निर्गत अनुज्ञा प्रमाण पत्र । (निविदा की शर्तानुसार)
- निविदा की शर्तें अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय के सूचना पटट् पर उपलब्ध है ।
- एक निबन्धन पर दो से अधिक कार्यों का परिमाण विपत्र देय नहीं होगा ।
- भारतीय स्टेट बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट/डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट ही मान्य होगा । बैंक ड्राफ्ट/ड्राफ्ट कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा के पक्ष में एवं भारतीय स्टेट बैंक मुख्य शाखा, चाईबासा में भुगतेय होगा, जिसे लौटाया नहीं जायेगा ।
- झारखण्ड सरकार, पथ निर्माण विभाग के संकल्प सह ज्ञापांक 2146 (S) राँची दि0 09 / 09 / 2020 के आधार पर निविदा का निष्पादन किया जाएगा।
- अग्रधन के रूप में NSC/TD/ FD (Vaildity 3 Years & duly discharged) मान्य होगा। जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा के नाम से प्रतिज्ञित होगा
- परिमाण विपत्र निबंधित संवेदक या उनके द्वारा विधिवत प्राधिकृत व्यक्ति को (प्राधिकार पत्र में अंकित पहचान दस्तावेज की छाया प्रति के साथ मूल प्रति प्रस्तुत करने पर) निर्गत किया जायेगा।
- अग्रधन के रूप में निजी बैंक का FD मान्य नहीं होगा।
- संवेदक को आवेदन के साथ इस आशय का शपथ पत्र देना होगा की उनका कोई भी कार्य एकरारित समय सीमा बीत जाने के बाद लंबित नहीं है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा

PR 290524 West Singhbhum(22-23).D

Tribals in traditional attire and percussion instruments Mandar and Nagada participated in a protest rally organized at Prabhat Tara Ground in Ranchi on Thursday, February 16, demanding implementation of Sarna Dharm Code.

## Deputy Headman Tapas Mahto takes charge as Headman

**Seraikela, Feb 16 :** Tapas Kumar Mahato, deputy head of Murup panchayat under Seraikela block, was given the charge of head. Upmukhiya Tapas Mahto took over as the chief Panchayat Secretary on Thursday. He said that he will serve the Panchayat residents with full devotion and honesty. He will hold meetings with ward members, village heads and villagers to execute government schemes in each village of the panchayat. It may be informed that Pano Mahli, the head of Murup Panchayat, died on January 23 while undergoing treatment after being injured in a road accident. In this context, in the order letter issued by the Deputy Commissioner of the district, it has been said that in the light of Section 73 (ii) (a) (2) (3) of the Jharkhand Panchayati Raj Act 2001,Deputy Chief Tapas Kumar Mahato has been authorized as the head of Murup Panchayat for powers, execution of all works and discharge of duties. After the re-election of the chief, this order will automatically be considered deleted. This order will come into force with immediate effect. Murup Panchayat Samiti member Anita Pradhan, village head Ashwani Singhdev, Jitmohan Mahato, Arjun Pradhan, ward members Bhriguram Pramanik, Lakshmi Mahali, Manju Ho, Kunti Devi, Rita Devi, Anita Soy and Ajit Pradhan and others were present on the occasion. (w-pb)

# Pak government to drop another 'petrol bomb' on public

Hamza Ameer

In yet another tough decision to save Pakistan from the looming threat of bankruptcy and financial meltdown; the Shehbaz Sharif government is gearing up to drop another "petrol bomb" on the masses by increasing prices of fuel from February 16 (Thursday).

As per a source in the government quarters, prices of petroleum products is likely to be hiked by at least 12.5 per cent."The ex-depot litre price of petrol is calculated to go up by at least PKR 32.07, High Speed Diesel (HSD) may see an increase of PKR 32.84 per litre, kerosene oil by PKR 28.05 per litre and Light Diesel Oil (LDO) by at least PKR 9.90 per litre from February 16," said the source.This comes after the government recently jacked up fuel prices by PKR 35 per litre on January 29."Likely, the new prices are based on current government taxes and estimated PSO incidentals," the source added.

The source also stated that the decision to increase fuel prices is aimed at meeting one of the major demands of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which has called on Pakistan to meet its commitment of petroleum levy of PKR 50 per litre.

"The estimated dollar/rupee adjustment applies PKR 15 per litre for both petrol and HSD while it is assumed that the petroleum levy (PL) on HSD will rise to PKR 50 per litre," the source maintained.The increase of fuel prices is no less than a bomb for the masses, who are already suffering to towering inflation, increased gas and electricity per unit prices, which is coupled with widespread joblessness after many multi-national and local companies shut down their operations or have downsized their staff members in the wake of close of imports and ban on LC (Lease Credit) by the government.

At present, petrol is available at PKR 249.80 per litre while HSD stands at PKR 295 per litre, kerosene oil at PKR 189.83 per litre and LDO at PKR 187 per litre.

The government source also revealed that the ex-refinery price for the second half of February 2023 of petroleum products is calculated to go up by 21.4 per cent as well.

The latest decision adds more challenges, struggles and sufferings to the already burdened common man, who will have to bear the affects of the colossal hike in prices of petroleum products.The hike in petroleum prices will have a direct impact on the transport industry, agricultural sectors and the overall inflation in the country through proportionate or more increase in prices of commodities and items of daily use of a common household.

# Controversial Governor replaced by another of the same genre

By Abhijit Roy

Bhagat Singh Koshyari, the controversial governor of Maharashtra, eventually had his resignation accepted after much waiting. The decision to make a change in Maharashtra was required since Koshyari's actions and remarks throughout his three-year tenure not only inflamed the opposition parties but also did everything in his power to make the ruling party look bad. Even in the state's non-political circles, his comments on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Mahatma Phule, and Savitribai Phule sparked hostility. Additionally, his claim was particularly damaging because Mumbai would lose its status as the nation's financial hub if Rajasthanis and Gujaratis left. Koshyari found it challenging to remain in office as a result of these controversies, and eventually he quit. He urged that the Prime Minister immediately release him from his obligations. In this regard, the president's decision from last Sunday was made in a way that all the parties felt relieved. Jharkhand Governor Ramesh Bais, who was transferred to Maharashtra, will also be remembered for political controversies during his nearly one year and eight months in office. On more than a dozen occasions, there was mutual disagreement and even discord within the Hemant Soren-led government. However, the same cannot be said for governors appointed in other states at the same time. Governors have been replaced in a total of 13 states, with transfer being used in seven of them. That is, the governor who sent her there had previously praised a similar position in a different state. One former Supreme Court justice and four BJP leaders are among the six fresh faces who have been dispatched to the Raj Bhavans. Only last month did the former justice leave the Supreme Court. There is no doubt that a retired Supreme Court judge has served at the Raj Bhavan before, and it cannot be inferred that a retired judge is incapable of carrying out the duties of governor in a manner that is appropriate for the office. However, it has been stated that an interval of at least six months or a year would be preferable for the dignity of both the position of governor and the position of Supreme Court judge before the seat was transferred.

**(Author is a Jamshedpur based columnist. The views expressed are personal. He can be reached at abhijitroytatanagar@gmail.com)**

# Haley pulled off spectacular wins against formidable odds; can she repeat it?

Arul Louis

With the odds stacked against her, Nimrata Nikki Haley came from virtual anonymity to pull off first, a seat on South Carolina's legislature and, then, the governorship of the conservative southern state as a Republican.

Can the independent-minded Indian American woman now pull it off in her run for the Republican Party's presidential nomination against a formidable candidate, former President Donald Trump?

A poll by Yahoo and YouGov last week showed her with just 5 per cent support in her party, with Trump leading at 37 per cent and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis at 35 per cent in an open field with several candidates including former Vice President Mike Pence trailing her at 4 per cent.

Having been underestimated as a woman, she threw a challenge in the Twitter video announcing her candidacy: "You should know this about me: I don't put up with bullies. And when you kick back, it hurts them more if you're wearing heels".

And her heels have smashed glass ceilings, making her the first woman and the first non-White to become South Carolina's governor and the first Indian American to hold a US cabinet position.

A canny politician, she stepped into the race warily after initially saying that she wouldn't run if Trump would.

So far, Trump has held his vicious tongue and keyboarding when it comes to Haley, focusing his barbs on DeSantis, who is seen as his main rival.

He tweeted on Truth Social, his social media outlet: "Nikki has to follow her heart, not her honour. She should definitely run!"

It may be more than just magnanimity towards Haley whom he appointed to his cabinet.

The Yahoo-YouGov poll found that in a straight contest between Trump and DeSantis, the Florida governor was ahead by 4 per cent, 45 to 41.

But in a three-way race with Haley, where her support rose to 11 per cent, Trump came out on top with 38 per cent to 35 per cent for De Santis, considered a likely candidate although he hasn't announced his run.

So, it would be for Trump to welcome Haley in the race - along with others - to split the Republican primary votes against him.

And, he can leave it to other possible rivals to bash her.

The fact that overall the race for presidential nominations is unsettled without a majority for Trump and with the other leading figure, DeSantis, not yet formally in the race, may have a strategic opening for her.

It gives her a lead to build her profile. nationally.

She presents herself as the "new generation" leader for her party -- a subliminal reference to the quarter century between her 51 years and Trump's 76.

She also pointed out in her video that the Republican Party lost the popular vote in seven of the last eight elections.

Her state, South Carolina, is the third state where Republicans will be polled to elect the party candidate and the larger than the other two, New Hampshire and Iowa.

A good showing there could raise her standing in the primaries and caucuses in the remaining 47 states.

However, she could face a rival from the state, Senator Tim Scott, who is exploring a run for the Republican nomination.

He is an African American who first got into the Senate when Haley nominated him to fill a vacancy.

Vice President Kamala Harris who ran for the Democratic Party nomination for the 2020 election dropped out when her support after hitting as high as 15 per cent plunged to 5 per cent - the point Haley is starting from. (RealClear Politics consolidation of various polls places her lower with 3.75 per cent backing.)

Regardless of the final outcome in the Republican intra-party elections, the primaries and the caucuses, she would have raised her national profile.

She may even end up as the vice presidential candidate although the odds are diminished by the fact that the two likely winners, Trump and DeSantis, are from a neighbouring southeast state and traditionally the ticket has geographic diversity.

All through her political career, she has shown an independent defining streak bucking the party's traditions and leaders.

In one of her signature moves as governor, she had the flag of the Confederacy, the secessionist southern states that fought to maintain slavery, removed from the state headquarters campus, fighting the traditionalists who wanted to hold aloft the symbol of racism.

After two years as the UN permanent representative, she quit in 2018, a rare Trump cabinet appointee to leave on own terms and with no apparent rancour.

She criticised Trump for continuing to claim he won the 2020 election which was a factor in the January 6, 2021 riots that tore into the Capitol building housing Congress.

She said of the Republican Party in an interview to Politico, "We need to acknowledge he let us down. He went down a path he shouldn't have, and we shouldn't have followed him, and we shouldn't have listened to him".

Haley's relationship with Trump has been tenuous.

One of the early "Never Trumpers", she successively supported two of his rivals in the 2016 race for the Republican nomination, which he won in defiance of the party establishment, but backed him as the party candidate.

Trump's proxies like Fox News talk show host Tucker Carlson have instead attacked her.

"It wasn't that long ago that Nikki Haley explained immigrants are more patriotic than you are," he said.

A fighter, Haley wears her Indian and immigrant heritage as a badge of honour.

She said in her Twitter video: "I was the proud daughter of Indian immigrants, not black, not white. I was different."

And she turned that to her advantage as a sign of patriotism riling the likes of Carlson: "My parents reminded me and my siblings every day how blessed we were to live in America".

Her father Ajit Singh Randhawa sat behind her wearing a turban when she appeared for the Senate hearings for her confirmation to the cabinet post, and she showed pictures of him in her video.

She converted to her husband's Methodist sect of Christianity when they married, but continued to visit Gurdwaras and the couple went to the hallowed Amritsar Golden Temple while visiting India.

As a Republican, Haley is in the minority of her Indian American community.

The community is solidly behind the Democratic Party, with 65 per cent behind President Joe Biden and only 28 per cent for Trump in 2020, but it showed an erosion from 2016 when backing for Hillary Clinton was 77 per cent and 16 per cent for Trump, according to AAPI Data.

Haley's standing in the community has not been polled and she has supporters and very vocal detractors among Asian Indians.

But her announcing her candidacy marks another milestone for Indian Americans, a group making headway into US politics.

M R Rangaswami, a community leader, summed it up: "It is exciting to see another Indian American step up to run for the highest office in the US".

The founder of Indiaspora, a global organisation that works in a non-partisan manner to promote the engagement of the Indian diaspora in political and civic life, added, "It is gratifying to see our community participate in all facets of public service".

Rangswami noted, "Over the past decade, we have witnessed our community going from no representation to now having a Vice President and five members of Congress".

Another Indian American politician, also the former governor of Louisiana, another southern state, Bobby Jindal ran for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination, but dropped out when his support barely moved beyond 1 per cent.

A conservative, Haley brings to the race experience in international affairs as the US permanent representative at the United Nations and governance as the head of South Carolina, a combination that DeSantis lacks - and a robust sense of patriotism and her version of "America First".

Declaring that it is "a great day in South Carolina". she boasts of bringing businesses to her state when she was governor, notably Boeing which set up a facility to make its 787 aircraft that India has ordered.

But most of all an opposition to the extreme left that she tries to make the Democratic Party's identity.

"Some people see America and see vulnerability," she said in the video and as images of Harris and other Democrats floated on the screen, she intoned, "Socialist left sees an opportunity to rewrite history."

Acknowledging that the US had shortcomings, she said, "Even on our worst day, we are blessed to live in America", adding that for real "evil" in the world turn to China for "genocide" and Iran for the killing of protesters.

"China and Russia are on the march" and "they think we can be bullied,a she said threatening a hard response.

She has set up a political action committee, Stand for America PAC, which has raised $17 million.

To build support for her, it distributed campaign funds in the 2020 Congressional elections to 38 Republican candidates around the country, according to Federal Election Commission data compiled by Open Secrets, a political finance watchdog.

**(Arul Louis can be contacted at arul.l@ians.in and followed at @arulouis)**

# Trade crosses $125 bn, but India continues to strike at Chinese firms, apps

Nishant Arora

Amid reports that the Chinese "surveillance balloon" collected information on military assets "in countries of emerging strategic interest to China" such as India, New Delhi has had its share of "national security" concerns with Chinese tech companies and platforms.

The total trade between the two countries has surpassed $125 billion. Chinese exports to India accounted for the majority of this figure, totalling $97.5 billion.

India's smartphone market has been dominated by Chinese companies like Xiaomi for several years now. Raw materials and components to assemble several tech products in the country are still arriving from China, although the government's emphasis on local manufacturing is slowly changing this scenario.

India's tech tussle with China began in June 2020, after Chinese and Indian troops engaged in aggressive skirmishes at locations along the Sino-Indian border, including near the Pangong Lake in Eastern Ladakh and the Tibet Autonomous Region.

Following the Galwan Valley skirmish on June 15, 2020, some Indian campaigns about boycotting Chinese products were started and calls were also made to stop the entry of Chinese companies into the country.

The first ban on Chinese apps was announced in June 2020, starting with 59 apps including popular platforms like TikTok, Shareit, WeChat, UC News, UC Browser, Mi Community and more. India then went on to ban more than 300 Chinese apps.

In 2020, the Indian Army also asked its personnel to delete 89 mobile apps, that included several Chinese apps, from their smartphones to curtail leakage of information.

However, the bigger tech skirmish came when India took on the leading Chinese smartphone companies which are a dominant force in the country.

The Indian government looked into cases of alleged tax evasion by three Chinese mobile companies -- OPPO, Vivo India, and Xiaomi. The companies were served notices by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) for duty evasion.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) had seized Rs 5,551.27 crore of Xiaomi India lying in its bank accounts under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA).

In a major relief to Xiaomi India in December, the Karnataka High Court quashed the Income Tax department's order of attaching Rs 3,700 crore fixed deposit amount in a tax evasion case against the company.Indian authorities also prevented Chinese smartphone maker Vivo from exporting 27,000 smartphones worth $15 million for more than a week.

A Chinese state-run Global Times report later claimed that If India uses more unfair practices to aggravate foreign companies' concerns, "it will not only hurt the interests of Chinese companies, but the reputation of India's business environment may be irreversibly damaged".

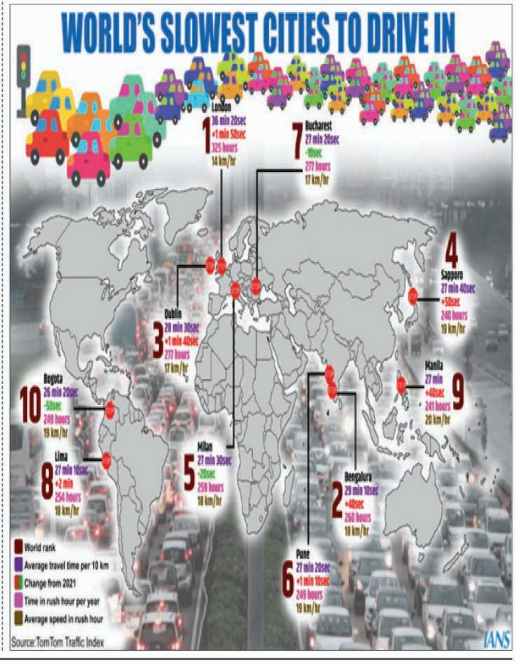
"Relevant departments in India need to further investigate and make clarifications in a timely manner to dispel anxiety among the business community," said the publication.

According to technology analysts, it will be difficult for India to rid its dependence on China's relatively cost-effective mobile phones.

Reports also surfaced late last year that China's ZTE Corporation and Huawei's Indian unit workforce have reportedly decreased by about 90 per cent over the past two years, as the companies have been unable to acquire new businesses, including the supply of 5G technology in the country.

In its latest digital strike, the Centre last week ordered to ban around 200 apps, including 138 betting apps and 94 loan lending apps, over "Chinese linkage" concerns.

The IT Ministry was recently instructed by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to ban such apps, which operate through a third-party link.Sources said that all these apps were found violating Section 69 of the IT Act and contained materials which were deemed as threat to India's sovereignty and integrity.


WORLD'S SLOWEST CITIES TO DRIVE IN
1 London 36 min 20sec +1 min 50sec 325 hours 14 km/hr
7 Bucharest 27 min 20sec +0sec 277 hours 17 km/hr
4 Sapporo 27 min 40sec +50sec 240 hours 19 km/hr
3 Dublin 28 min 30sec +1 min 40sec 277 hours 17 km/hr
10 Bogota 26 min 20sec +0sec 249 hours 19 km/hr
9 Manila 27 min +40sec 241 hours 20 km/hr
8 Lima 27 min 10sec +2 min 254 hours 18 km/hr
5 Milan 27 min 30sec +0sec 259 hours 18 km/hr
2 Bengaluru 25 min 10sec +40sec 260 hours 19 km/hr
6 Pune 27 min 20sec +1 min 10sec 249 hours 19 km/hr
World rank
Average travel time per 10 km
Change from 2021
Time in rush hour per year
Average speed in rush hour
Source: TomTom Traffic Index
IANS

# India aim for victory to make Pujara's 100th Test memorable, Australia eye series-squaring win

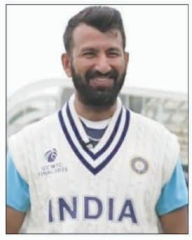
**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** After a big win by an innings and 132 runs in Nagpur, India will be aiming for another victory when top-order batter Cheteshwar Pujara marks his 100th Test appearance in the second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series starting from Friday at the Arun Jaitley Stadium here from Friday.

Ironically, it was in October 1996 in a one-off Test between India and Australia in what was called then Feroz Shah Kotla ground that the Border-Gavaskar Trophy was first initiated. Now, with the series witnessing the most amazing duels in Test cricket in the past few years, the fans in New Delhi can expect some exhilarating action, if India and Australia can iron out their respective flaws.

India's top order has been in misfiring mode, barring skipper Rohit Sharma, who was magnificent in his 120, which was a combination of attack and defence in equal measure. K.L. Rahul has to get big runs, especially with an in-form Shubman Gill waiting in the wings.

Pujara would like to bring his classical style of batsmanship into play to make his milestone match memorable, while Virat Kohli will be itching to treat the home crowd to an amazing display of strokeplay, provided he manages to get the better of spinners, who have been his Achilles heel for long.

The return of Shreyas Iyer, if he manages to carry the load of a five-day Test match, should boost India's batting on a dry-looking pitch which is expected to be a slow turner. If Iyer, one of India's better players of spin and has an average of 56.72 from seven Tests, comes in, then



Suryakumar Yadav will have to make way. One of the most bright aspects of India's play in Tests has been the lower order bailing them out of many tough scenarios, something which head coach Rahul Dravid had admitted. Comeback man Ravindra Jadeja, along with Ravichandran Ashwin, Mohammed Shami and Axar Patel, brought out a counter-attack which gave India the substantial lead and victory in Nagpur.

With the ball, the spin trio of Ashwin, Jadeja and Axar were top class while Shami and Mohammed Siraj were no less, taking out the openers in quick succession at the start of the innings. The expected slow nature of the pitch at New Delhi means Australia have to bat out of their skin if they are to make the match run for full five days, something which Sri Lanka did when the stadium hosted a Test match the last time in 2017.

Marnus Labuschagne and Steve Smith will again hold the key with the bat for the visitors. The right-handed duo had led a brief resurrection act in Nagpur before it all went downhill for Australia in the first innings. In the second innings, Australia just crumbled like a pack of cards to 91 all out.

With Australia skipper Pat Cummins saying that there is talk of playing three spinners, then it's a toss-up between left-arm spinners Ashton Agar and Matthew Kuhnemann. But that only happens when Cameron Green is fit enough to take the field on Friday along with left-arm pacer Mitchell Starc.

The task of squaring the series is going to be an uphill one for Australia, especially with India not lost a Test at New Delhi since 1987. For the hosts', it is a chance to make Pujara's 100th Test celebration a memorable one with a victory and an inch closer to sealing their spot in the World Test Championship (WTC) final, to be held at the Oval from June 7.

Squads:

India: Rohit Sharma (captain), KL Rahul (vice-captain), Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Ravindra Jadeja, KS Bharat (wicketkeeper), Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Kuldeep Yadav, Suryakumar Yadav, Umesh Yadav and Ishan Kishan (wicketkeeper).

Australia: Pat Cummins (captain), Ashton Agar, Scott Boland, Alex Carey (wicketkeeper), Cameron Green, Peter Handscomb, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Usman Khawaja, Matt Kuhnemann, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Lance Morris, Todd Murphy, Matthew Renshaw, Steve Smith (vice-captain), Mitchell Starc, and David Warner.

## Praveen Chithravel admits he was surprised with national record jump at Asian Indoor Athletics

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Praveen Chithravel -- who has created an indoor national record in the men's triple jump to clinch the silver medal at the Asian Indoor Athletics Championships -- has admitted that he was surprised with a record effort of 16.98m jump. "We are still in the off-season. We got ourselves prepared just 20 days prior to the event. This is the first competition of this year for us and my coach told me that you have to jump like 16.80. There is no issue as we are still in the off-season. But I was quite surprised with my 16.98m jump," Chithravel told IANS. The youngster, who had a personal best jump of 17.18m at the National Inter-State Championships last year, has crossed the 16.80m mark four times and has shown

good consistency in his performance lately. The 22-year-old triple jumper burst into limelight after clinching a bronze medal at the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires in October 2018.

## Pat Cummins admits playing three spinners in New Delhi

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** On the eve of the second Border-Gavaskar Trophy Test at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi, Australia captain Pat Cummins admitted the visitors might field three spinners in a five-member bowling attack instead of bringing in Mitchell Starc, who could be passed fit to play.

This rare ploy from Australia means left-arm spinner Ashton Agar and Matthew Kuhnemann are in the mix to play in New Delhi from Friday, alongside the off-spin duo of Nathan Lyon and Todd Murphy.

"I think there's a conversation. We'll work that out by the end of today, I hope. He's one of the world's premier bowlers in these types of conditions. We'll see. As I said, the wicket looks like it might turn a little bit."

"I thought last week with two pacers, that attack functioned quite well but I think whether it's Starcy, another spinner, Scott (Boland), variety in the attack does help," he said in the pre-match press conference.

Both Starc and fast-bowling all-rounder Cameron Green, on road to recovery from finger injuries, didn't train on Thursday. On Wednesday, when they trained, they looked in decent touch though they had their share of discomforts while bowling and batting.

"Starcy and Green had good sessions yesterday and we will assess them later on today. We don't

have a line through them yet, we'll see," updated Cummins.

Green's inclusion as a fast-bowling all-rounder does provide the flexibility Australia are searching to play three spinners. Green has played five Tests in Asia, averaging 43.16 with the bat and 63.66 with the ball.

"Having a right-hander helps and him providing our fifth bowling option also helps. He's a big player, it certainly helps the team function well from batting and bowling."

"You have got to be able to perform as well, he's still coming back from that injury, and he's only had a couple of sessions where he's catching with a hard ball. He had a really good session (on Wednesday), but will see how he pulls up," added Cummins.

## 1st Test: Brook, Duckett, Anderson help England take control against NZ

**Mount Maunganui (NZ), Feb 16 (IANS)** England grabbed the initiative on the first day of the first Test thanks to breezy knocks by Harry Brook and Ben Duckett backed up by three quick wickets by their pacers at the Bay Oval here on Thursday.

Brook struck 89 off 81 balls while Ben Duckett hammered 84 from 68 deliveries as England scored at a fast clip to declare their innings at 325/9 in 58.2 overs.

Following that, Jimmy Anderson claimed two wickets while Ollie Robinson claimed one as the hosts slumped to 37/3 in 18 overs and were facing the prospect of conceding first innings lead.

England, as is their tactics in this Bazball era, went about scoring at a fast pace. But they also lost wickets at regular intervals as they declared their innings at 325/9 after New Zealand skipper Tim Southee won the toss and elected to field first.

It looked like the decision would work for the hosts as Southee sent back Zak Crawley for 4, as he produced movement on a full length, luring the firm drive that took a thick edge, to the third slip where Michael Bracewell stooped low to his left and clung on to pouch the chance.

Duckett and Ollie Pope (42 off 63 balls) rescued the visitors from the difficult situation as they took England to 117 before Ducett departed. Duckett, who struck 14 boundaries during his 68-ball stay and was threatening to score a hundred before lunch, fell short as played a shot too many and mistimed a shot to Bracewell off Blair Tickner.

Brief scores: England 325/9 decl. in 58.2 overs (Harry Brook 89, Ben Duckett 84, Ollie Pope 42; Neil Wagner 4-82, Tim Southee 2-71) v New Zealand 37/3 in 18 overs (Devon Conway 18 not out; Jimmy Anderson 2-11, Ollie Robinson 1-10).

## Australia should go with three quicks and one spinner in second Test: Allan Border

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Former Australian captain Allan Border has suggested significant changes to the approach to selection and tactics for the second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy and reckoned that Australia should go with their strengths -- three fast bowlers and just one spinner.

"We tend to look at the pitches that are gonna turn and say we should play with a couple of spinners. I'm a bit the other way - I think we should go with our strengths, go with our fast bowlers, bowl with certain plans to their batsman, subtle different changes of tactics, and play with the three quicks and just the one spinner," Border said on SEN Breakfast.

"That formula has worked for us generally. And when we've done it in India in the past, it's on the back of (Glenn) McGrath, (Michael) Kasprowicz, Jason Gillespie - these guys. Fast bowlers doing a really good job for us and getting 20 wickets."

As for which spinner should be there in the line-up, Border made a bold call, saying Australia can drop Todd Murphy and bring Nathan Lyon as their only spinner.

"You've got to go with (Nathan) Lyon, he's built up enough brownie points over the years to be the first picked," he said.

"Well done to young (Todd) Murphy, it's going to be a tough decision to leave him out, I know the wicket is going to turn but I just reckon the formula for us to be successful is three quickies and one spinner." The Australian great has also slammed the selectors for the decision to omit Travis Head for the first Test, saying that the batter deserved to be in the playing XI of the Nagpur Test.

## He was a blessed child of the football god: AIFF condoles demise of Tulsidas Balaram

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** The All India Football Federation (AIFF) mourned the demise of the legendary former India forward Tulsidas Balaram, who passed away in Kolkata on Thursday.

A prominent member of the golden generation of Indian football in the 1950 and 1960s, Balaram, who lived in Uttarpara, West Bengal, died in a city hospital in Kolkata. He was 85. As a mark of respect for Balaram, who played a huge role behind India's historic gold medal triumph in the 1962 Asian Games and several other memorable victories at the international level, the AIFF has announced a three-day mourning period. While the federation will fly its flag at half-mast during this period, a one-minute silence will be observed before the start of all competitive matches in India.

## Khelo India women's weightlifting, cycling events to take place this month

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** The Khelo India National ranking women weightlifting tournament for senior, junior and youth women (3rd Phase) is set to be held at the Patliputra Sports Complex, Kankarbagh, Patna from February 18-24. A total amount of INR 1.47 crore has been approved for 3 Women's Weightlifting tournaments and it includes a total sum of INR 48.3 lakh for the top 8 ranked Weightlifters across ten weight categories in all age groups.

Around 400 weightlifters will participate in Patna.

Meanwhile, a host of Track and Road Cycling events are also scheduled this month (From February 19-28) across the West Zone, South Zone and North Zones of the country.

## Tough game for Real Madrid and big relegation clashes in Spain's Matchday 22

Madrid, Feb 16 (IANS) The 22nd round of matches in La Liga kicks off on Saturday with Girona at home to Almeria as the visitors look to end a run of results that has left them just two points above the relegation zone. Sunday's biggest match sees Real Madrid travel to Pamplona to face Osasuna, with Carlo Ancelotti's men eight points behind FC Barcelona in the title race after a comfortable 4-0 win at home to Elche on Thursday, reports Xinhua news agency.

## Sneha triumphs in third leg to end long wait for maiden win as a pro on WPGT

**Kolkata, Feb 16 (IANS)** Sneha Singh staged a brilliant rally on the back nine of the third leg of the Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club, to finally find her way to the top of the podium for the first time as a professional.

Sneha, trailing Jasmine Shekar by two shots at the start of the day, fell five behind by the turn. After

making the turn she was on fire and found four birdies on the home stretch to set a clubhouse target of even par 216.

When Jasmine came to the 17th tee, she was 2-under for the day, but still one ahead of Sneha with two holes to go.

She just needed two pars on the last two holes for a maiden win and denied Sneha yet again.

## WPL will be a gamechanger for women's cricket, says Gujarat Giants coach Rachael

**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** The first-ever player auction ahead of the 2023 Women's Premier League recently concluded where all the five franchises finalised their squads. The Adani Sportsline owned Gujarat Giants was represented by the terrific trio -- mentor and advisor Mithali Raj, head coach Rachael Haynes and bowling coach Nooshin Al Khadeer -- at the auction table calling the shots here.

"From international to domestic, U-19 and even uncapped players, we've got most of the players that we wanted," said Mithali Raj. "I'm thrilled to have on board an exciting blend of players from various walks of life and we all are excited to see how all the players come together and carve a niche for ourselves," shared Mithali.

## Cricketer Prithvi Shaw attacked in Mumbai, eight booked for rioting, extortion

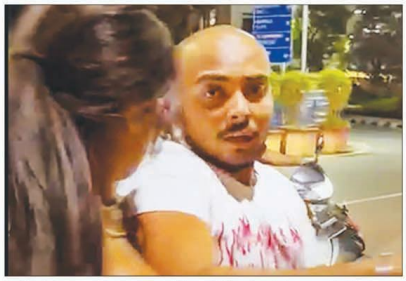
**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS):** Indian cricketer Prithvi Shaw's car was attacked with a baseball bat by a person after an argument over taking selfies with him outside a luxury hotel at Santacruz in Mumbai, officials said on Thursday. Following the incident that took place in the early hours of Wednesday, a case of rioting and extortion was registered against eight persons, including a woman, they said.

The incident took place when the cricketer had gone to the hotel located near the domestic airport at Santacruz for dinner with his businessman friend, an official said. A complaint in this connection was lodged by Shaw's friend and flatmate Ashish Yadav, who runs a cafe. Yadav has been staying with Shaw for the last three years at Bandra.

As per the complaint, an unidentified person approached Shaw for a selfie. Initially, the cricketer allowed that person to do so. However, after the person insisted on clicking more selfies with him, Shaw turned down the request.

After that, the accused started arguing and misbehaving with the cricketer, the official said. On seeing this, the manager of the hotel intervened and asked the person, who was demanding selfies with Shaw, to vacate the premises, he said.

After this incident, Shaw and Yadav had dinner at the hotel. But while they were stepping out of the place along with their friend, they saw the same person holding a baseball bat in hand. After they sat in their car, the accused attacked the windshield of the vehicle with the baseball bat. Sensing more trouble, Shaw was



shifted to another car, while Yadav and others drove his vehicle to Oshiwara, he said.

Yadav saw three motorcycles and a white-coloured car chasing their vehicle. Around 4 am, those following him attacked his car when it was taking a U-turn near a petrol pump on Link Road. One of them slammed the baseball bat on the rear windshield due to which it broke.

The six motorcycle-borne persons and two others in the car, including a woman, abused Yadav and those accompanying him. After that, Yadav took the car to Oshiwara police station. The eight accused also followed them there. The woman accused started arguing and threatened Yadav to pay Rs 50,000 to settle the matter or else she would lodge a false police complaint against them, the police official said.

After that, Yadav lodged a complaint against the accused. Based on his complaint, the Oshiwara police registered a case against the eight accused under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 143 (unlawful assembly), 148 (rioting), 384 (extortion), 506 (criminal intimidation) and others, he said. Investigation into the case is underway, the police official said

# Ed-a-mamma forays into Nature Inspired Infants' wear

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANSlife)** Fresh from the resounding success of their first ever sustainable nursing maternity-wear collection, actor and investor Alia Bhatt's brand is now expanding its product offerings to launch an Infant's Collection focusing on the age group of 0-3 years.

Ed-a-Mamma's new drop introduces three themes - Jungle Joy, Cute-a-sauras, and Woodland Wonders. The collection revolves around the joy and innocence with which babies look at the world - hand-drawn doodles from the plant and animal kingdom feature prominently and bring the themes alive.The infants' collection features lightweight, soft, and breathable casuals and has a wide range of boys, girls, and unisex wear. Key pieces in the collection include thoughtfully curated sets that make the most amazing gifts - as well as standalone pieces such as t-shirts, denim, dresses with bloomers, expandable bodysuits, sleepsuits, caps, booties, and bibs amongst others. Speaking about the new launch, Alia Bhatt said, "The decision to launch Infants was a deeply personal one. As a young mother, we want to give our children the best of everything. And so, on my quest to find the best possible clothes for my baby, we embarked on the journey to create this infant wear line, which I am so happy to share with you. Cute and Comfortable, this new line is approved by nature, and by the lil beans themselves."Iffat Haider Jivan, Business Head, Ed-a-Mamma emphasizes, "I'm really proud of this collection. We pride ourselves on having our ear to the ground, and are in tune with what Mammas and their lil beans need and want. With the launch of Ed-a-Mamma's Baby Wear, we offer parents expanded product options through a curated line from newborns through toddlers. Staying true to the brand's commitment to responsible sourcing, the entire collection is carefully crafted to provide parents with supreme quality and great designs that are also easy on their pocket."

**(IANSlife can be contacted at ianslife@ians.in)**

# Making Space for love, kindness and understanding

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANSlife)** No matter what, we all deserve to be loved and valued. Make sure to take the time this year, whether you're single or in a relationship, to express your love in unique ways.

Spend some time expressing your love and gratitude to those around you. Making breakfast in bed for your loved ones can be as simple as delivering a handwritten message. Relationships can be strengthened significantly by demonstrating care.

Reach out to loved ones; whether it be through a phone call, text message, or a handwritten note, spend some time to let them know that you are thinking of them and value them. Give the people you care about the gift of time, connection, empathy, compassion, and a safe place to be vulnerable.

Dr Chandni Tugnait, a Psychotherapist, Life & Business Coach, & Founder-Director of Gateway of Healing, shares 14 ways to help you create meaningful memories:

Have a spa day: Treat yourself and your loved one to a relaxing spa day, complete with massages, facials, and other pampering treatments.

Plant a tree: Plant a tree together in honour of your relationship or friendship. This can symbolise growth and remind you of the love you share.

Do a puzzle: Working on a jigsaw puzzle helps enjoy each other's company and boosts the satisfaction of completing a task as a team.

Have a photography session: Have a professional photography session together or take candid photos of each other throughout the day.

Go stargazing: Find a secluded spot away from city lights and spend the evening stargazing and discussing your hopes and dreams for the future.

Write a song: Write a song together, either from scratch or by remixing a favourite song to make it your own.

Plan a scavenger hunt: Create a scavenger hunt for your partner or friends, leading them to different locations with unique gifts and special memories.

Create a care package: Put together a care package for someone you love, including their favourite treats, a cosy blanket, and a handwritten note.

Create a memory book: Collect photos, mementoes, and memories from your relationship or friendship and create a memory book that you can look back on for years to come.

Have a movie marathon: Choose a selection of your favourite romantic comedies or heart-warming films and spend the day with your loved ones.

Play games: Play games together, such as board games, card games, or video games. This can be a fun and playful way to spend time together.

Make handmade gifts: Create handmade gifts for each other, such as a painting, a photo album, or a knitted scarf.

Take a dance class: Sign up for a class together and learn how to salsa, tango, or swing dance.

Perform acts of kindness: Plan a day of random acts of kindness, such as leaving positive notes for strangers, paying for someone's coffee, or donating to a charity.

Dr. Chandni Tugnait suggests celebrating everyone who brings happiness and joy into your life - friends or neighbours who have been by your side during tough times or family members who keep filling your life with laughter. Remember to be kind to yourself too! Give yourself the same amount of love and kindness that you give others, and don't put yourself last on the list constantly. Treat yourself well - it'll make all the difference!

**(IANSlife can be contacted at ianslife@ians.in)**

# What do your shoes share about your attitude?

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANSlife)** Shoes contribute a lot to your style, not only do they elevate your look but they also say a lot about your personality. Most people are judged by the shoes they wear. There's an old English proverb that points towards the same and holds to date.

It is also said that shoes affect your mood. The shoes you wear can reflect your style, mood, personality, attitude, and much more. If you want to leave a strong impression, a versatile shoe collection can do the job, they add a lot of depth to your personality. You can unknowingly create a negative impression of yourself with your shoes. Hence, it is recommended to never laze around the shoe matter.

Take things into your own hands and start building a fantastic shoe collection today. If you are extremely unaware of shoes, Kuldeep Singh, Founder and CEO of San Frissco outlines a collection of shoes you should own and what they convey. Let's dive in!

**Sneakers**

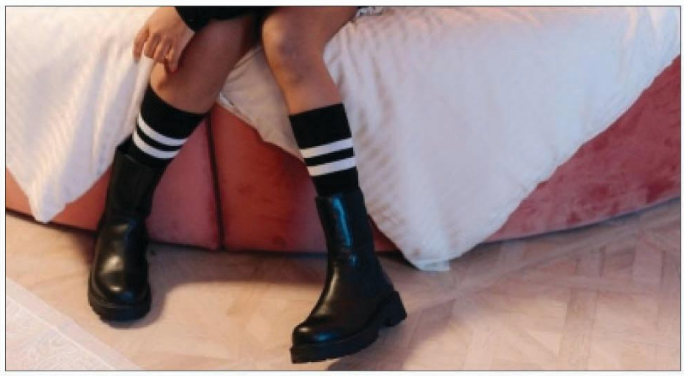
Sneakers are the most frequently worn shoes these days. They usually represent a happy, sporty, and comfortable attitude. They are best paired with casual outfits. If you want to look professional, it is better to avoid these. Sneakers are comfortable, cozy, and stylish. They convey an extremely relaxed vibe. From your friend's birthday party to your workouts, you can wear them everywhere. You need to invest in a sneaker to complement all your styles.

**Chappals and Sandals**

Leather Sandals or Chappals elicit an extremely comfortable, chilled, and relaxed attitude. They are perfect for beach vacations. Additionally, they are the most suitable for your feet during summer. Apart from a beach vacation, you can also wear them for daily activities. They are street-friendly, and even celebrities and influencers are opting for them.

**Boots**

One of the best additions to your shoe collection, boots are a sight to behold. They work well in both



personal and professional settings. They convey a strong, professional, chic, and charismatic attitude. You can style it with denim, pants, or even dresses. You can wear a pair to the office and even parties. They convey extreme confidence as well.

**Loafers**

Loafers never go out of style. They can easily convey a casual and light-hearted attitude. They are perfect for get-togethers and parties that involve your near and dear ones. They are minimalist yet stylish. They can give a confident and chic vibe with chinos, denim, and even a well-fitted suit. They are extremely comfortable and you'll feel confident in your skin.

**Heels**

Heels have been a status symbol since time immemorial. Kings and Queens wore heels to denote their high status. It was also used during dances. Even today, heels represent confidence, boldness, and even a high status. Women who wear heels are deemed more attractive as well. Thus, wearing heels can convey a strong, attractive, and powerful attitude. You can pair them easily with dresses, jumpsuits, and even denim.

Shoes can convey more than you know. You should always keep a good check on your shoes and wear the most suitable pair. You need to dress up according to the situation, surroundings, and people. Only when you can do that, you can create the desired impression with your shoes.

**(IANSlife can be contacted at ianslife@ians.in)**

# Yuzu - the skincare ingredient that deserves your attention

N. Lothungbeni Humtsoe

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANSlife)** It's the time of the year when healthy skin is on everyone's mind! So, here's a new holy grail for all Korean skincare lovers! Yuzu - a citrus fruit and the plant from the Rutaceae family; also known as the Japanese grapefruit, it has a bright yellow colour, is smaller than an orange, is tart yet aromatic, and yes, you can eat it!

Apart from being a gastronomical delight, Yuzu's benefits for skin care are responsible for making it the buzziest skincare ingredient that the beauty world cannot get enough of. Imagine the wonders it can do for your skin if it has 3x the amount of Vitamin C as compared to lemons! Quench Botanics shares some great benefits of this magical ingredient for the skin.

Antioxidant-rich

Given the fact that this awesome citrus fruit has 3 times the Vitamin C of its fellow citrus friends, it easily tops the antioxidant list. Remember antioxidants? The good guys shield your face from free radicals, boost the skin's radiance, and keep it looking youthful. What more could we ask for?

**Moisturising**

The crux of glowing skin is hydration. Skin that is well-hydrated is by default healthy and well-balanced. Be it irritated skin, acne overload, or plain dryness, there is nothing that hydration cannot handle. And thankfully, Yuzu fruit extract offers tons of hydrating benefits. It restores your skin's moisture barrier and keeps it looking supple all the time!

**Anti-Aging**

Good news for folks who are looking out for a potent anti-aging ingredient that can turn back time. Yuzu is like that pool of youth, where even a little plunge can make your skin look much firmer, refreshed, and younger. Yuzu really helps with collagen production, which in turn blurs the fine lines and wrinkles, and improves the skin's elasticity. It hinders the formation of advanced glycation end products (AGEs), which considerably slows down the skin's aging process. There are only a handful of natural ingredients that offer amazing anti-aging benefits, and Yuzu is proudly one of them.

**Calming**

You'll be happy to know that Yuzu isn't just a treat for the skin, but also for your senses. It is proven to ease anxiety, lower the heart rate, promote blood circulation, and alleviate emotional stress. It has a very relaxing citrus scent that calms your nerves and takes you to the aromatic haven!

The Quench Botanics Yuzu Fine Revitalizing Under Eye Gel; is formulated to give your under-eyes some much-needed calmness and TLC, this quick-absorbing eye gel comes packed with the goodness of Yuzu fruit extracts to give you refreshed eyes. Be it under-eye bags, dark circles, wrinkles, or fine lines, this eye gel sweeps them all! Loaded with peptides, vitamins A, C, E, and K, the product is a must-have!

No need to wait anymore to get your hands on different K-beauty products that are filled with the goodness of the Yuzu fruit, and uplift your skincare regime now.

**(IANSlife can be contacted at ianslife@ians.in)**

# Mythological Oil Paintings

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANSlife)** There were five European communities or colonies along the Hooghly River's banks: British colonies, French colonies, Danish colonies, Dutch colonies, and last but not least, Portuguese colonies. Their colonies were mostly created for training purposes.

Native artists learned how to use oil colours and to paint on canvases instead of little paper miniatures through exposure to their artistic expertise and practise. Wealthy European or indigenous merchants and zamindars were the primary patrons of European artists.

They were adopting new subjects even though they were primarily painting portraits. These paintings are now referred to as "Early Bengal Oil Paintings" or "Dutch Bengal Paintings," which is the more common name for them. In Calcutta, formal art instruction first began in the 19th century.

Native artists had European-style art training before turning to their own traditional themes of Gods and Goddesses and personality portraits. The artwork on display in this exhibition dates from the late 19th through the early 20th centuries.

The historical context of the Indian Art Movement and the artistic practise of the early works in the genre of oil painting in India can both be observed and appreciated through this show.

**(IANSlife can be contacted at ianslife@ians.in)**

# Imran Khan asks Pak President Alvi to order inquiry against Bajwa

**Islamabad, Feb 16 (IANS)** Former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan has asked President Arif Alvi to order an inquiry against former COAS General (retd) Qamar Javed Bajwa for his alleged violation of oath and the Constitution of the country, local media reported.

"Some very disturbing information has now come into the public domain whereby it is clear that Gen retd Bajwa as COAS violated his oath of office repeatedly," the PTI chief stated in a letter written to the president, shared publicly on the party's official social media channels today, Geo News reported.

Khan mentioned that the former army chief committed "violations" and requested Arif Alvi "as Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces to institute an immediate inquiry against him", Geo News reported.

The PTI chairman referred to a column published in a newspaper earlier this month in which startling revelations about Khan's government were made attributing General (retd) Bajwa.

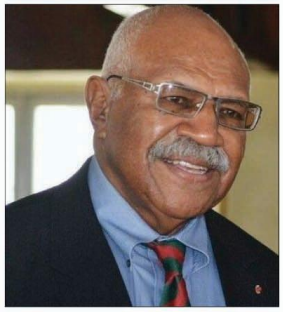
"He has admitted to a journalist that 'we' (and it would be critical to ascertain from him who was the 'we' in reference to) considered Khan dangerous to the country if he continued to stay in power," Khan said, adding the question that arises is who gave him the power to decide that an elected prime minister was supposedly a danger to the country.

The PTI chairman noted that only the people through elections can decide who they want to elect as prime minister, Geo News reported.

"Taking such a right on himself is in clear violation of his oath as given in Third Schedule Article 244 of the Constitution," he alleged.

# India a special friend and trusted partner: Fiji PM

**Nadi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Extending gratitude towards Indian government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for extending help in the time of need, Fiji Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka on Thursday said that India is a special friend and trusted partner of his country.



In a joint statement with Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar here, Rabuka said: "India has stood by us in times of need, has worked shoulder to shoulder to overcome the challenges posed by the climate crisis and the Covid-19 pandemic"

"We are grateful to the Indian government and people of the country for supporting us through provision of life saving vaccines, humanitarian assistance," Rabuka said.

Rabuka also expressed heartfelt appreciation to Prime Minister Modi and Indian government for their incredible support in co-hosting the 12th World Hindi Conference in Fiji.

Rabuka said: "This is the first high-level visit from Indian government in a almost a decade after Modi visited Fiji in 2014. This visit symbolises friendly relationship and mutual respect we have for one another."

Jaishankar said: "India and Fiji share close and friendly ties rooted in our historical linkages with such strong cultural similarities."

"Thank the government of Fiji for partnering with on the cultural heritage exercise," Jaishankar added.

Earlier in the day, both the nations signed a pact on visa exemption for domestic and official passport holders facilitating easy access to opportunities for discussion and collaboration at all levels.

In the morning, Jaishankar was given a warm welcome in Parliament of Fiji. The EAM also appreciated Fiji Minister Charan Jeeth Singh's address in Hindi.

"Glad to meet MPs and witness the Parliament session in Fiji earlier today. Appreciated Minister Charan Jeath Singh's address in Hindi," he posted on Twitter.

Jaishankar said that India views Fiji as an important partner in the Indo-Pacific and discussed long-standing ties and ways of intensifying cooperation.

"Exchanged views on areas of priority. We will upgrade our development partnership accordingly," Jaishankar said.

Jaishankar and Fiji President Wiliame Katonivere jointly launched the 'Solarisation of the Pacific Heads of State Residences Project' which is supported by the Indian government and the state house in Suva, Fiji.

"This project reflects India's strong commitment to climate action, to climate justice," Jaishankar added.

## PTI supporter sentenced to three years in prison for 'defaming' Pak Army

**Islamabad, Feb 16 (IANS)** A district and sessions court in Faisalabad has sentenced a PTI supporter to three years in prison for "defaming" the Pakistan Army by running a "highly obnoxious and intimidating campaign" against the senior military leadership on Twitter, media reports said.

Sikandar Zaman, 30, was apprehended last year by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) after a complaint against him was lodged under different sections of the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016, and the Pakistan Penal Code, Dawn reported.His Twitter account had 184 followers, according to the Pakistan Lawyers Forum, the report said.Zaman's mobile phone and Twitter account were also seized by the police.

According to the FIR, as mentioned in the verdict, Zaman posted a tweet against the Pakistan Army "relating to the helicopter incident" last year with the intent to "spread panic" in society, Dawn reported.

## Pakistan: 2 killed, 6 injured in Jaffer Express blast

**Islamabad, Feb 16 (IANS)** At least two people were killed and six others injured in a blast inside the Quetta-bound Jaffer Express on Thursday, the media reported.

The blast occurred in bogie number 6 of the express when it was passing from Chichawatni railway station, ARY News reported.The injured were rushed to Tehsil Headquarters Hospital, Dawn News reported quoting Sahiwal District Police Officer (DPO) Faisal Shahzad.

The nature of the blast is being determined, area has been cordoned off and investigation initiated.

## Japan books record trade deficit of $26 bn in January

**Tokyo, Feb 16 (IANS)** Japan booked a record trade deficit in January owing to rising energy costs and the pace of exports slowing, the government said in a report on Thursday.According to the Finance Ministry, the country's trade deficit in January stood at 3.5 trillion yen (26.16 billion US dollars) and marked an 18th straight month of red ink, Xinhua News Agency reported.Imports jumped 17.8 percent to 10.05 trillion yen (75.13 billion dollars) in the recording period, the ministry said, while exports were up 3.5 percent to 6.55 trillion yen (48.96 billion dollars).

With the US, it booked a slight surplus of 280.7 billion yen (2.09 billion dollars), the ministry said.

## 3 dead, 43 injured in Brazils prison fire

**Brasilia, Feb 16 (IANS)** At least three prisoners were killed and another 43 injured in a southern Brazil prison fire, local authorities said. The fire that broke out on Wednesday at the Penitentiary of Florianopolis, in Santa Catarina state, was traced to a mattress in one of the cells, said William Shinzato, head of the Penitentiary Affairs Commission All three fatal victims died of smoke inhalation, according to Brazil's Order of Lawyers, the country's top bar association, Xinhua News Agency reported.The fire was brought under control and did not spread to other parts of the prison, Brazilian news network GloboNews said.

## 1 killed, 3 wounded in Texas shopping mall shooting

**Austin, Feb 16 (IANS)** One person was killed and three others wounded in a shooting incident in a shopping mall in El Paso, a major border city in the US state of Texas, authorities said."We have one person in custody," El Paso Police Department spokesman Robert Gomez told a news conference, Xinhua News Agency reported.He said the shooting happened inside the Cielo Vista Mall on Wednesday evening, adding, "we don't have any active shooters at this time."

## NATO chief urges bigger defence budgets

**Brussels, Feb 16 (IANS)** The member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) should commit to spending at least 2 per cent of their gross domestic product (GDP) on defence by next year, the alliance's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said.

He was addressing journalists following a NATO defence ministers' meeting here to address key issues for their security, Xinhua news agency reported.

"More countries are now spending at least two per cent of their GDP on defence. And 2022 was the eighth consecutive year of increased defence spending by European allies and Canada. With an additional investment of $350 billion, this trend is expected to continue this year. But more needs to be done," he said.

NATO allies agreed in 2014 to move toward spending 2 per cent of their GDP on defence by 2024.

He said the allies had agreed on the need to work hand-in-hand with the defence industry to ramp up industrial capacity because Ukraine, to which they were providing unprecedented support, was "consuming an enormous quantity of allied ammunition and depleting our stockpiles".

He said the ministers had also discussed the security of critical undersea infrastructure following the sabotage of the Nord Stream pipelines.

He announced the establishment of a Critical Undersea Infrastructure Coordination Cell within the NATO headquarters.

# Indian-American named to key post in Biden's economic team

**New York, Feb 16 (IANS)** Indian-American economist Bharat Ramamurti and four others have been named by US President Joe Biden as key members of his economic team to deliver on his "steady and stable growth strategy".Ramamurti, who currently serves as Deputy Director of the National Economic Council, will be an Advisor for Strategic Economic Communications."Over the past two years, my economic strategy has delivered historic results for the American people. This team will be committed to implementing that strategy, while managing the transition of our historic economic recovery to steady and stable growth," Biden said in a White House statement.Along with Ramamurti, Biden has appointed Lael Brainard to serve as Director of the National Economic Council and Jared Bernstein as Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Heather Boushey has been named Chief Economist to the Invest in America Cabinet and Joelle Gamble as the Deputy Director of the National Economic Council.

"Along with Bharat, Heather, Joelle and other key members of my White House economic team, Lael and Jared will help bring a seriousness of purpose to the task of building a strong, inclusive, and more resilient economy for the future," Biden said.

He further said that his team will work tirelessly to ensure every American enjoys a fair return for their work and an equal chance to get ahead, and that their businesses can thrive and outcompete the rest of the world.

"Very excited to work with these excellent folks," Ramamurti wrote in a tweet on Wednesday.

Before joining the Biden administration, Ramamurti was appointed in 2020 by Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer as a commissioner on the Congressional Oversight Commission for the CARES Act.

He previously served as the Director of the Corporate Power program at the Roosevelt Institute, and as economic policy adviser to Senator Elizabeth Warren in her Senate office and on her presidential campaign.

Born in Massachusetts, Ramamurti, who hails from Tamil Nadu, is a graduate of Harvard College and Yale Law School.

## Japan culls nearly 15 mn birds amid rampant avian flu

**Tokyo, Feb 16 (IANS)** Nearly 15 million birds have been culled in Japan, a record high for a single season, amid an unprecedented spread of bird flu across the country, the farm ministry said Thursday.

Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said the number of culled birds now stands at 14.78 million, about 50 per cent more than the record 9.87 million logged during the 2020-2021 season, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The figure hiked as the disease hit large chicken farms, including one in Misawa City, Aomori Prefecture, where about 1.39 million birds were culled in December.

Ministry data showed that 76 bird flu outbreaks have been confirmed at poultry farms and elsewhere in 25 prefectures since the first cases were reported in October last year in Okayama Prefecture and Hokkaido.

The ministry warned that risks are increasing throughout the country, noting that this season the avian flu is spreading in six prefectures that had never seen outbreaks before, such as Yamagata and Okinawa.

## Retirees in China protest over slashed health benefits

**Beijing, Feb 16 (IANS)** Crowds of retirees in China have again taken to the streets to protest against cuts to their medical benefits, the media reported.

They gathered on Wednesday for a second time in Wuhan, where Covid was first detected, and also in the north-eastern city of Dalian, BBC reported.The second round of protests in seven days puts pressure on President Xi Jinping's administration just weeks before the annual National People's Congress, which will usher in a new leadership team, BBC reported.

Protests first took place in Wuhan on February 8 after provincial authorities said they were cutting the level of medical expenses which retirees can claim back from the government.Social media footage shows the protesters to be largely elderly retirees, who say this comes at a time of soaring healthcare costs, BBC reported.

Although such health insurance matters are handled at a provincial level, protests have spread to different parts of the country in what appears to be a renewed belief in the power of demonstrating in China.

At the end of last year, thousands of young Chinese took part in protests that eventually forced the government to overturn its strict zero-Covid measures - people had grown weary of the mass testing and sudden, sweeping lockdowns that had been smashing the economy.

The changes to health benefits for retirees, which officials have described as reforms, come just as China emerges from that brutal Covid wave.The plan has been sold as a means of trading off reimbursement levels to increase the scope of coverage to include more areas. However criticism of plan on social media has included the widely held view that Chinese officials are trying to recoup the vast amounts of money spent on compulsory Covid testing and other pandemic measures, BBC reported.

## Pakistan economist urges resumption of trade with India

**Islamabad, Feb 16 (IANS)** Pakistan political economist Pervez Tahir has called for revival of trade with India to decrease people's woes, local media reported.

He said the federal cabinet's size should be cut down in conformity with the requirement of the 18th Amendment. Since the federal development spending is financed by borrowing, it ought to be reduced to zero until the budget is balanced, he said, adding that defence expenditure "has a tail longer than... necessary".

Dr Tahir was addressing the participants of the Third Asma Jahangir Memorial Lecture organised by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. Former PPP senator Farhatullah Babar also spoke at the event, which was moderated by rights activist Nasreen Azhar, Dawn reported.

Dr Tahir suggested that income of big landholders must be subjected to normal income taxation. Wealth tax, inheritance tax and estate duties need to be re-imposed, he said, adding that there should be no increase in indirect taxes, Dawn reported.

Provinces should devote 50 per cent of their income to development budget and provide the corresponding current budget to fully comply with Article 25-A within two years, he said.

"Property tax should be fully devolved to local governments for effective public service delivery and trade should be opened in the region to deal with the current account deficit," he suggested, Dawn reported.

Addressing the event, Babar said: "Everyone says that perks and privileges of parliamentarians should be reduced but even we cannot ask that how and why 90 acers of land worth Rs 5 billion was given to a general in Lahore at the time of his retirement."

## EU emissions reduction targets unrealistic, say Italian ministers

**Rome, Feb 16 (IANS)** Italian officials criticised the new CO2 emissions reduction targets recently approved by the European Parliament for new vehicles, saying the targets were unrealistic.

The targets, which ban the sale of carbon-emitting diesel and gasoline vehicles by 2035 in the European Union (EU), is aimed at speeding up the transition to a low-carbon economy.

The European Commission on Tuesday also proposed ambitious new CO2 emissions targets for new heavy-duty vehicles, such as, compared to 2019 levels, reducing greenhouse emissions from heavy trucks by 90 per cent by 2040, and requiring all new city buses in Europe to be zero-emission vehicles by 2030.

While the EU initiatives garnered praise from environmental groups, they were blasted in Italy, where officials said they tried to do too much too quickly, Xinhua news agency reported.

"In these times and with these methods there is a risk," said Adolfo Urso, Italy's minister of enterprises, in an interview on Wednesday. "The time frames and procedures that Europe is imposing on us do not match ... the Italian reality," Urso said.

"I am a great supporter of electric cars, but ambitious targets have to be achieved in reality and not just on paper," said Antonio Tajani, Italian foreign minister, in an interview on Wednesday. "It is necessary to combat climate change, but this requires setting achievable targets."

Matteo Salvini, deputy prime minister and the minister of infrastructure and transport, said the rules would make European industry less competitive globally.

# Indian-origin businessman jailed for loan fraud in UK

**London, Feb 16 (IANS)** An Indian-origin businessman has been sentenced to 12 months imprisonment in the UK for having abused an interest free loan scheme provided to businesses impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Kulwinder Singh Sidhu, 58, from Stanwell, pleaded guilty to offences under the Companies Act and the Fraud Act, having abused the Bounce Back Loan financial support scheme in 2020.

He was director of Wavylane Ltd, a haulage company based in Stanwell, and which had been trading since 2010. "Our action has ensured repayment of the loan money and taxpayers have not been left out of pocket," Julie Barnes, Chief Investigator at the Insolvency Service, said.

"Any other company directors who might be tempted into dissolving their business to try to keep public money they are not entitled to, should be aware they are risking a lengthy prison term," she added.

On 9 June, 2020 Sidhu applied for a 50,000 pound Bounce Back Loan from his bank on behalf of his business. Under the Bounce Back Loan scheme, genuine businesses impacted by the pandemic could take out interest-free taxpayer-backed loans of up to a maximum of 50,000 pound.

The loan was paid into the company bank account and on June 26, 2020 Sidhu filed paperwork with Companies House to have the business dissolved, having transferred the funds to his personal bank account within two days of receipt.

The striking-off application to dissolve the company was explicit that interested parties and creditors, such as a bank with an outstanding loan, must be notified within seven days of making an application to dissolve a company. The form also highlighted that failure to notify interested parties is a criminal offence, however Sidhu did not follow these rules.

The company was dissolved in October 2020, and was subsequently identified as likely Bounce Back Loan fraud by the Insolvency Service and cross-government counter-fraud systems.

The Insolvency Service investigation found that Sidhu had fraudulently overstated the company turnover in the Bounce Back Loan application, and within two days of receiving the money he had transferred it to his personal account before dispersing the funds to his son and another company.

## Health

### IIT-Delhi researchers develop next-gen vaccine using body's own immune cells

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Researchers at IIT-Delhi on Thursday said they developed a nano-vaccine using the body's own immune cells, as opposed to the synthetic materials or adenoviruses used in Covid-19 vaccines.

This naturally derived nano-vaccine developed by researchers may have several advantages over currently approved vaccines. It will reduce the possibility of blood clotting, which has previously been observed in vaccinated individuals, according to IIT-Delhi.

The immune response elicited by this vaccine was tested in mice.

It was found that this antigen was more effective than free antigens in producing antibodies against the Covid-19 virus.

"In fact, when injected with a 10 times lower dose compared to the free antigen, the nano-vaccine was equally efficient in raising antiviral immunity. Interestingly, it showed a durable immune response, including the generation of memory cells, which can act as a safeguard for the next infection," Prof Jayanta Bhattacharyya, Centre for Biomedical Engineering, IIT-Delhi, said in a statement.

In general, after vaccination, antigen-presenting cells (APCs) begin processing the antigens and subsequently activate other immune cells (B and T cells) to produce antibodies, and eliminate the virus, said IIT-Delhi.

This next-generation vaccine, however, is one step ahead since it uses nanovesicles from activated APCs, which already contain processed antigens on their surface and are also equipped with additional factors needed to directly activate B and T cells, it added.

Prof Bhattacharyya also mentioned that this approach to vaccination can be used for various other infectious diseases, such as dengue.

## Technology

### Samsung working on Galaxy Watch with built-in projector: Report

**San Francisco, Feb 16 (IANS)** Tech giant Samsung is reportedly working on a Galaxy Watch, which will be equipped with a built-in projector.

The tech giant has filed a smartwatch-related patent which mentioned "a projection display on a side portion of the housing and configured to display information on a display area adjacent to the housing", reports Sam Mobile.

This might indicate that the Galaxy Watch's projector can mirror the main screen on an adjacent surface.

The filing further said that "projection display may display information that is different from the information displayed on the display module."

The diagrams on the patent also showed a number of lenses and LEDs aligned in two rows that are expected to allow for an undistorted projection of the image via the built-in projector on the watch.

However, users might need to have their wrist perfectly straight for the image to be properly displayed.

Meanwhile, earlier this week, Samsung Electronics and Natural Cycles had announced a partnership to bring advanced temperature-based menstrual cycle tracking capabilities to the Galaxy Watch5 series.

The new skin temperature-based cycle tracking capabilities will be available on Galaxy Watch5 and Watch5 Pro within the second quarter in 32 markets. The feature is yet to be announced for the Indian market.

### Most Indian employers intend to hire in 1st half of 2023

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** About 92 per cent of Indian recruiters express optimism about hiring in the first half of 2023 while only 4 per cent of recruiters predicted layoffs during the first six months, a new report said on Thursday.

According to Naukri.com, around 46 per cent of recruiters expect new and replacement hiring, 29 per cent expect only new job creation, and 17 per cent are looking to maintain their headcount.

With the ever-increasing demand for tech skills, maximum hiring is expected for IT roles.

However, the report states that business development, marketing, HR & administration, and finance are among the other functional areas where significant hiring is expected in the first half of 2023.

Meanwhile, about 62 per cent of employers across India intend to hire freshers during January-June 2023, according to employment services provider TeamLease.

Despite the global downturn, the intent to hire freshers for Indian employers has increased by 3 per cent (62 per cent) from July to December 2022 (59 per cent).

"Even in the face of a global muted sentiments around team hiring, a large number of Indian employers have expressed their intention to hire freshers; some to create a long-term supply channel whereas others to replace their expensive resources with fresh trainable talents," said Shantanu Rooj, Founder & CEO TeamLease EdTech.

Cloud developers, investment banking associates, cybersecurity engineers, marketing analysts, social media specialists, content writers, campaign associates, microbiologists and Biomedical engineers have emerged as top roles in freshers' hiring.

Moreover, the report mentioned that the top three industries with the most robust intent to hire freshers are IT (67 per cent), ecommerce & technology startups (52 per cent) and tTelecommunications (51 per cent).

Amongst the Tier I cities, Bengaluru comes at the top with maximum openings for freshers at 75 per cent, followed by Mumbai (56 per cent), and Delhi (47 per cent).

# Randeep Hooda meets 'Laal Rang 2' director to discuss story, characters

**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** Actor Randeep Hooda, who is reprising the role of his much loved character of Shankar in the upcoming film 'Laal Rang 2', recently met his director Syed Ahmad Afzal to discuss the storyline and characters for the sequel.

The director took to his social media on Thursday to share a picture from the meeting and wished Randeep a speedy recovery. In the picture, the actor-director duo can be seen posing for the camera in amber coloured lights. They also sported T-shirts with the dialogues (written in Devanagari) of the hit first part.

The director wrote in the caption, "Shankar Singh Malik, district: Rohtak. This red colour doesn't leave me, a jaat always unfolds his cards wisely."

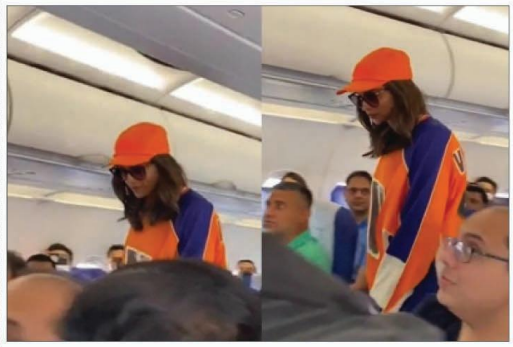
The director continued in the caption, "Witnessing Chaudhry sahab @randeephooda involved as the principal lead and producer of a feature length, I must say is the ideal environment for any filmmaker to thrive. The readings, narrations, ideations, jokes all have nostalgia written over it. We've both lived this dream for 7 years and now are on the verge of realising it."

"Memories from the preparation days of the first film are all rushing back. Just the thought of hitting the floors again for the sequel with the entire original team is giving the same rush as we had felt in the first. Wishing speedy and total recovery of your knee, Chaudhry Sahab," he added.

'Laal Rang', which was released in 2016, revolved around the illegal trade of blood banks in Haryana and shed light on the darker aspects of society.

'Laal Rang 2: Khoon Chusva' is produced by Randeep Hooda Films, Avak Films & Jelly Bean Entertainment. It is co-produced by Anwar Ali and Sonu Kuntal.

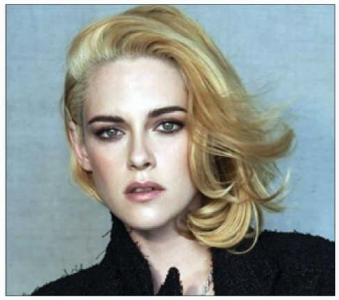
# Video of Deepika Padukone flying in economy class goes viral



**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** Ditching the luxury of business class, Bollywood star Deepika Padukone was seen flying in the economy section in a flight.A fan posted her video on their social media account, where Deepika, who was followed by her body guard, is seen walking towards the front, as directed by one of the crew members. In the video, she is seen keeping a low profile and walked without talking to any of the co-passengers.In the video posted by a fan club of Deepika on Twitter, she is seen wearing a fiery orange and blue jacket paired with a cap along with sunglasses.

On the work front, Deepika was recently seen in 'Pathaan' starring Shah Rukh Khan and John Abraham.The film 'Pathaan' has become the fifth highest grossing Indian film after beating Salman Khan's 'Bajrangi Bhaijaan' (2015) and Aamir Khan's 'Secret Superstar' (2017).

## Movies will never go away, says Kristen Stewart as Berlinale takes off



**Berlin, Feb 16 (IANS)** Berlin Film Festival jury President Kristen Stewart doesn't buy the talk that movies are dead. At a press conference in Germany on Thursday afternoon to commemorate the launch of the 73rd annual Berlinale, she declared that cinema will live forever, reports 'Variety'.

"Take a quick glance at your rear view mirror," said Stewart, taking questions from reporters, according to 'Variety'. "We have never stopped telling each other stories."

She then nodded to headlines about weakened international box office receipts as a result of the pandemic. "How much it costs, obviously like we're headed towards oblivion on that one. I also think that there's a sort of, like, vital, desperate need in all of us to create something. And yeah, I think when you start really fixating on, like, the industry, it's easy to be like, 'Oh, God, it's all falling apart!' But I just think that there's something vital, that's undeniable, will never go away," 'Variety' quotes Stewart as saying.

Stewart first attended the Berlinale in 2010 with the independent production, "Welcome to the Rileys", alongside director Jake Scott.

"I guess in full transparency, I'm kind of shaking," she said about her role as the festival's President, according to 'Variety'. "It's not a weight that I don't fully understand. I'm just ready, ready to be changed by all the films and changed by the people around us. I think that's what we're here for."

## Netizen says Dharmendra is behaving like a 'struggling actor', star responds

**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** Veteran Bollywood star Dharmendra, who will be seen as Shaikh Salim Chishti in the upcoming show 'Taja', has a sweet reply to a netizen who asked him as to why is he "behaving like a struggling actor" for asking fans for their wishes for his series.

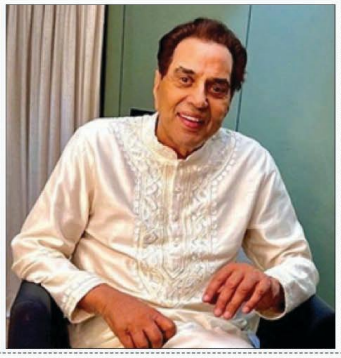
The 87-year-old star took to Twitter, where he shared a look from 'Taj - Royal Blood' and captioned it: "Friends, I am playing Shaikh Salim Chishti... a sufi saint, in the film Taj - Royal Blood. A small but important role.. need your good wishes."

Replying to his tweet, a user wrote: "Why is he behaving like a struggling actor?"

Dharmendra said: "Vaishnav, life is always a beautiful struggle. You, me everyone is struggling... Resting means...end of your loving dreams... end of your beautiful journey."

'Taj' also has Naseeruddin Shah in the role of Akbar, Aditi Rao Hydari as Anarkali, Aashim Gulati as Prince Salim, Taha Shah as Prince Murad, Shubham Kumar Mehra as Prince Daniyal, Sandhya Mridul as Queen Jodha Bai, Zareena Wahab as Queen Salima, Sauraseni Maitra as Mehr un Nisa and Rahul Bose as Mirza Hakim.

Dharmendra will also be seen in Karan Johar's 'Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani'.



## Anushka: Aditya Chopra told me not to tell my parents about 'Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi'

**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** Yash Raj Films' head honcho Aditya Chopra told actress Anushka Sharma to not tell her parents about her debut film 'Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi' starring Shah Rukh Khan.

In the docu-series 'The Romantics', actress Anushka reveals how Aditya Chopra wanted to keep her debut under wraps, to an extent that he told Anushka to not even tell her parents about Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi.

Anushka reveals laughing, "Everything was under wraps. Nobody knew about it and Adi didn't want anybody to know that I was the lead actor. Adi literally said to me, 'you can't tell anybody. You cannot even tell your parent'. I said, "Huh?"

From Aamir Khan to Salman Khan, from Shah Rukh Khan to Ranbir Kapoor, from Amitabh Bachchan to Ranveer Singh, from Rani Mukerji to Hrithik Roshan, from Katrina Kaif to Anushka Sharma, the mega-stars and icons of Hindi cinema have come together and spoken about Yash Chopra and YRF's contribution to Indian cinema in 'The Romantics'.

# Zeenat Aman shares post from 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram' with message on obscenity

**Mumbai, Feb 16 (IANS)** Veteran actress and former Miss India Zeenat Aman, who recently made a splash with her Instagram debut, shared a picture from her film 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram'. The old picture has a sepia tone.

The picture belongs to the look test from the film, which was directed by Raj Kapoor and starred his younger brother Shashi Kapoor.

Taking to her Instagram on Thursday, the actress shared the picture as she revealed the history behind the picture in the caption, "This picture was taken by photographer JP Singhal during a look test for 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram' around 1977. We shot the series at RK Studios, and my costumes were designed by Oscar winner Bhanu Athaiya."

She then made an important point surrounding the concept of obscenity in the caption, "Anyone acquainted with the history of Bollywood will know that there was much controversy and brouhaha about my character Rupa in Satyam Shivam Sundaram. I was always quite amused by the accusations of obscenity as I did not and do not find anything obscene about the human body. I am a director's actor and these looks were part of my job."

"Rupa's sensuality was not the crux of the plot, but a part of it. As it is, the set is not even remotely a sensual space. Every move is choreographed, rehearsed and performed in front of dozens of crew members," she continued.

The director of the film had his own reservation with regards to the actress playing the character of a girl who was essentially from a village and Zeenat had the persona of a 'western' woman, "Director Raj Kapoor (Rajji) had brought me on board the film, but was concerned about my 'western' image. He was unsure whether the audience would accept me in this avatar, and so conducted this look test. Later, on the basis of this test, we shot a small reel picturised on Lata ji's famous song 'Jaago Mohan Pyare' from the 1956 film 'Jagte Raho'."

There was also a small screening for a focused group to gauge their response, "Rajji held a screening of the reel at RK Studios to gauge the response of his distributors to me in this role. After that first screening, the rights for all territories were immediately sold."

Zeenat Aman, who won both Miss India and Miss Asia Pacific in 1970, has been one of the most revered actresses of the retro era. As much as she was recognised for her on-screen work, she also had a troubled personal front.

Zeenat, who was the dream of every man in the 1970s, fell in love with Sanjay Khan (the father of Zayed Khan and Sussanne Khan) on the sets of the film 'Abdullah'. Sanjay Khan was already married and had three kids from his marriage back then.

However, one night as the actress was shooting in Lonavala for a project, she received a call from Sanjay, who asked her to reshoot a portion of the song.

To which, Zeenat replied by saying that her dates are already occupied as she had committed to another project. As per 'Cine Blitz magazine, an angry Sanjay then accused Zeenat of being involved with the makers.

Hurt by this, the actress left her shoot in Lonavala and drove down to Mumbai. As she reached Sanjay's house, she was told that the actor was partying at the Taj hotel. She then went to the hotel to settle the dates.

Upon seeing her at the hotel, Sanjay got so angry that he took her to a nearby room and brutally beat her up leaving her with bruises. Not just this, Sanjay's wife Zarine cheered for her husband as he attacked Zeenat, saying 'give the b***h what she deserves' and herself started attacking the 'Don' actress.

While this incident happened in front of many onlookers, nobody bothered to come to Zeenat's rescue. Finally, a steward intervened and saved Zeenat from Sanjay. Even though she was in pain, she didn't report Sanjay's disgusting act to the police.

### Web development firm Wix lays off 370 workers in 2nd round of job cuts

**San Francisco, Feb 16 (IANS)** Israeli cloud-based web development services company Wix has laid off 370 employees in a second round of job cuts, most of them in the customer service department in the US.In August last year, the company laid off 100 employees, with the majority of those laid off working outside of Israel, reports Globes."With a heavy heart, I share with you that we have parted with 370 of our people. Most of them belong to our customer service organisation, and most of them are in the US. Their managers have already informed them about the difficult news, offered support, and explained the process that is expected to take place," Wix president Nir Zohar was quoted as saying."As you know the global economy has dramatically slowed down. We see this in all sectors ... As a result of which Wix and all its rivals have experienced a global slowdown, the significance of which is that we need to staff a smaller customer service," he added.

### Tesla sacks over 30 workers after they planned to form a union

**San Francisco, Feb 16 (IANS)** Elon Musk-run Tesla has fired more than 30 employees from its New York Gigafactory, after they planned to unionise, according to a complaint filed with the US National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).The Workers' United union alleged that Tesla fired over 30 employees from its Buffalo, New York plant and at least one of the workers was part of the 25-employee organising committee, while several others had taken part in labour discussions, reports The Verge.

The complaint alleged that the layoffs came "in retaliation for union activity and to discourage union activity.""This is a form of collective retaliation against the group of workers that started this organizing effort" and is "designed to terrify everyone about potential consequences of them organizing", Workers United organizer Jaz Brisack was quoted as saying in the report.

The Buffalo facility is known as Gigafactory 2 and "is home to over 800 analysts tasked with labelling vision data to train Tesla's Autopilot software".Tesla and Musk have faced several complaints over their anti-union behaviour in the past years.In January, Tesla was accused of violating labour laws in the US, allegedly directing employees not to talk about pay and working conditions.

### Apple among top 5 PC makers in India in holiday quarter, logs 11% growth

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Despite India PC market facing a steep decline in the holiday quarter, Apple managed to break into the top 5 PC vendors in the country for the fourth quarter of 2022, a report showed on Thursday.Apple has been consistently clocking strong numbers since last few quarters and finally managed to pip Taiwanese company Asus to the fifth spot in 4Q22.

"In a quarter where all the major vendors focused on inventory correction leading to reduced shipments, Apple witnessed positive traction thereby growing by 10.9 per cent YoY," according to an IDC report.The India traditional PC market, inclusive of desktops, notebooks, and workstations, grew marginally by 0.3 per cent year-over-year last year to 14.9 million units, despite a steep YoY decline of 28.5 per cent in 4Q22, according to IDC's 'Worldwide Quarterly Personal Computing Device Tracker'.In 4Q22, desktops continued their upward trend, but notebooks declined by 37.8 per cent YoY.Inflation and low sentiment impacted the consumer segment, resulting in a decline of 27.4 per cent.

### Global consulting firm KPMG to lay off about 700 employees in US

**San Francisco, Feb 16 (IANS)** Global consulting firm KPMG is laying off 2 per cent of its workforce that will impact about 700 employees in the US, owing to a "sharp slowdown in its consulting business".According to The Financial Times, KPMG has become the first of the Big Four accountancy firms to reduce jobs amid global macroeconomic conditions.The job cuts, according to Carl Carande, vice-chair of KPMG's US advisory business, were needed to "better align our workforce with current and anticipated demand in the market".According to the report, like the other Big Four firms (EY, Deloitte, and PwC), KPMG has also been struggling with the collapse in merger and acquisition activity, which has hit its deal advisory business."We continue to have more people than needed to meet current demand," Carande wrote in an internal memo."The reductions are spread across the US and across the consulting business, but do not include any partners," said the report.The Big Four financial accounting firms went on a hiring spree in the wake of the pandemic, as demand for IT consulting and deal advisory work had surged.

### S&P places Adani Transmission's ESG evaluation under review on potential governance issues

**Chennai, Feb 16 (IANS)** Credit rating agency S&P Global Ratings on Thursday placed its ESG (environment, social and governance) Evaluation for India-based Adani Transmission Ltd. (ATL) under review.This follows recent allegations of significant governance issues at the Adani group of companies."We aim to complete our review of the ESG Evaluation in the coming months. We will assess the implications of the allegations on our ESG Evaluation," S&P Global said.On January 24, 2023, a short-seller report claimed there are significant governance issues for the Adani group. Many allegations relate to disclosures and actions at the shareholder level. Since then, equity and bond prices have plummeted for the group's entities, including for ATL, the credit rating agency said."We will closely monitor developments, including any investigations by the Indian regulators and any additional disclosures by the Adani group. The allegations related to group governance and disclosures may affect the appetite of fund providers and business partners in supporting ATL's growth. This may raise financial and operational risks for the company," S&P Global said.

### 1 Indian mobile user now consuming 19.5GB data on average a month

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Average data consumption per user in India reached 19.5GB per user a month in 2022, which is equivalent to 6,600 songs, a report showed on Thursday.Mobile data traffic in India jumped 3.2 times in the last five years, reaching over 14 exabytes per month, according to Nokia's annual Mobile Broadband Index (MBiT) report.The report revealed that pan-India mobile data usage per month grew from 4.5 exabytes in 2018 to 14.4 exabytes in 2022.Together, 4G and 5G subscribers now account for almost 100 per cent of the total mobile data traffic in the country."India has seen a massive uptake of mobile broadband based on successful deployment of 4G LTE networks. We believe that 5G will take mobile broadband consumption to the next level in India by enabling new digital use cases for both consumer and enterprise segments," said Sanjay Malik, SVP and Head of India Market at Nokia.

# Aero India 2023: BFL signs MoU with Paramount group

**Bengaluru, Feb 16 (IANS)** Bharat Forge Ltd (BFL) and global aerospace and technology company, Paramount Group have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development and production of Composite Rotor Blades, Mission Systems and Stores Management systems for Medium Lift Helicopters at Aero India, an official release stated on Thursday.

Mr Guru Biswal, CEO-Aerospace Division, Bharat Forge said, "This MoU with M/S Paramount is a testimony of our commitment to work for an "Atmanirbhar Bharat", to create technologies that are niche and shall support Indian and Global requirements.

This collaboration will focus on creating the 'Centre of Excellence' for design, development and manufacture of Composite Rotor Blades, Mission Systems and Stores Management systems for Rotary Wing platforms, in India. This design and manufacturing hub shall support all future programmes for both India and across the globe.

Clifford Dewell, SVP, Paramount Group said, "Our global partnership with Bharat Forge has grown from strength to strength over the last few years. We are excited to expand our collaboration into the aerospace sector.

"We have confidence that this initiative will leverage the unique synergies of our joint capabilities to meet the requirements for these systems for Medium Lift Helicopters in India and across the globe.

"Our experience has been developed over many years; Paramount has delivered Mission Systems and Stores Management systems to several defense forces, including the South African and Algerian Air Forces."

# Sports Illustrated lays off 17 employees, including top editors

**San Francisco, Feb 16 (IANS)** Sports Illustrated has laid off top editors, including executive editor Adam Duerson, among 17 workers amid the deepening global macro-economic conditions.

Duerson announced on Twitter that he has been asked to go.

"Folks, I'm done. I've joined the esteemed ranks of former @SInow editors -- a brilliant and vast group whose members have each deserved better, but who were PAID (!!) to think and dissect and parse and nitpick. Imagine that. It was surreal to the last second," he posted.

An internal memo obtained by The New York Post revealed that Ryan Hunt, the co-editor-in-chief who has been with the media house for 25 years, is retiring in March.

"We are saying goodbye to 17 colleagues and have created 12 new openings to reflect the new needs of the Sports Illustrated (SI) business," according to the memo.

"The changes announced here will allow us to continue to respond and address those evolving audience needs. It is critical that we invest in the growth areas of our brands, while maintaining the expectations of our existing and long-time consumers," the memo read.

Some of the other laid-off employees took to social media.

# India's economic growth remains strong: DSP Mutual

**Chennai, Feb 16 (IANS)** India's economic growth continues to remain strong even in times when the world is facing economic turbulence, said DSP Mutual Fund.

According to DSP Mutual, India's high frequency indicators remain robust like healthy GST collections, near record high volume of petroleum products sold (a proxy for consumption), electronic toll (including Fastag) collections indicating brisk economic activity along with business activity and sentiments being positive.

The recent flat performance of Nifty Index compared to a 26 per cent rally in the MSCI Emerging markets index has resulted in the vanishing of the high valuation premium that India had over its emerging market peers, DSP Mutual said.

This is a positive development as foreign inflows in India had become muted lately due to high valuations. Further consolidation and steady earnings growth can cause India to become attractive once again as we progress into 2023, the Fund said.

DSP Mutual Fund feels there is an opportunity in the bond market. Whenever RBI has raised rates, corporate bond spreads have gone up.

This monetary policy is least disruptive because rates are not as high as the previous cycle, liquidity conditions are better versus the last hiking cycle, corporate spreads are also not very high. This means corporations can borrow even during the tightening cycle and the rates are also more conducive. This will help in India's growth from a long-term perspective, DSP Mutual remarked.

## Centre sells 4 LMT of wheat during second e-auction

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** More than 1,060 bidders participated and 3.85 lakh metric tonnes of wheat was sold during the second e-auction organised by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) on Wednesday .The corporation offered 15.25 LMT wheat stock during the auction.In the second e-auction, quantities ranging from 100 to 499 MT had maximum demand followed by quantities of 500-1,000 MT, followed by 50-100 MT indicating that small and medium flour millers and traders actively participated in the auction.Only five bids were received for the maximum quantity of 3,000 MT at one go.

Weighted average rate of Rs 2,338 per quintal was realised by FCI in the auction.Funds worth Rs 901 crore were generated by FCI in the second e-auction.In order to address the rising price of wheat and Atta in the country, as per the recommendation made by a group of ministers headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, FCI is offering wheat for e-auction.

## Dassault Systemes' SolidWorks allows free Cloud solutions for users from July 1

**Nashville (US), Feb 16 (IANS)** French 3DExperience major Dassault Systemes' SolidWorks, which is a vast portfolio of 3D design and engineering applications, will add free Cloud solutions for users this year, the company has announced.According to Gian Paolo Bassi, Senior Vice President, 3DExperience Works, the free inclusion of 3DExperience cloud solutions for all Solidworks seats will be applicable from July 1.The announcement at the company's flagship '3DExperience World 2023' event here will give 3DExperience users an ability to share and mark up a model for 3D view, in any browser, with no license or installation needed."The journey from ideation to creation starts when we're free to imagine how things could be, instead of how they are. When we possess the tools that enable us to imagine together, relationships transcend into experiences," Bassi said."Collaboration and creativity become one, creating a spark capable of propelling human progress forward," he added.This year's '3DExperience World' event was about imagining all we can achieve together."After two years of being physically apart, we are creating an on-site experience where our community can reconnect through the power of experience, discover the power of the 3DExperience platform, and create a more sustainable future through the power of community," Bassi noted.More than 10,000 people likely attended the event on-site and online.

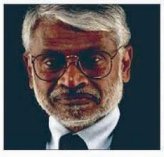
## TRAI tells telecom operators to block pesky calls, SMSes from telemarketers

**New Delhi, Feb 16 (IANS)** Alarmed at the rising pesky mobile calls and text messages by telemarketers, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Thursday directed all telecom service providers to reverify registered headers and message templates on distributed ledger technologies (DLT) platform and block all unverified headers and message templates within 30 and 60 days, respectively.

In a new directive, the telecom regulator said that the mobile operators need to ensure that temporary headers are deactivated immediately after the time duration for which such headers were created.TRAI issued the new directions to providers to stop misuse of headers and message templates and curb unauthorised promotions using telecom resources.

The telecom regulator told the mobile operators to remove confusions among recipients of message and prevent their misuse and no look-alike headers (headers which are similar by virtue of combination of small case or large case letters) are to be registered by access providers in names of different principal entities."Access providers have been directed to bar all telemarketers, who are not registered on DLT platform from handling the message template scrubbing and delivery of messages to recipients through Access Providers' network," read the TRAI note.

# World Bank head leaving for 'new challenges'



Arul Louis

**United Nations, Feb 16 (IANS)** David Malpass has announced that he is quitting as the president of the World Bank to take on "new challenges" after a rift with President Joe Biden's administration over climate change policies.

He said on Wednesday that he would be leaving the international development institution in June, ten months before the end of his five-year term.

His departure comes at a time when many countries around the world are facing severe financial problems.

Appointing the head of the World Bank is a prerogative of the US president and Biden will appoint Malpass' successor.

Malpass was close to former President Donald Trump, who appointed him to the post in 2019 after Young Kim, an appointee of former President Barack Obama, quit.

Malpass had worked in Trump's 2016 election campaign and became the Treasury undersecretary for international affairs before going to the World Bank.

Ideologically closer to Trump than Biden, he was dogged by the fallout of his refusal at a New York Times event last year to categorically affirm that climate change resulted from man-made greenhouse gases.

Pressed on the subject, he said, "I am not a scientist".

Former Vice President Al Gore, a leading climate activist had dubbed him a "climate denier" and many others joined in to criticise him.

A couple of days later, Malpass changed course and wrote to World Bank Staff, "It's clear that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are causing climate change".

The World Bank has been criticised for continuing financing of oil and gas projects and US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen reportedly had goaded him to speed up changes to the bank's functioning with more emphasis on climate change projects.

The Bank said that under his leadership, the Bank "more than doubled its climate finance to developing countries, reaching a record $32 billion last year".

In a statement after Malpass announced his decision to quit, Yellen papered over their differences saying that he "advanced shared priorities that have measurably improved the lives of people around the globe".

"While we all must continue to raise our collective ambitions in the fight against climate change, during President Malpass' tenure the World Bank has made important recent advances in this area, including through the successful launch of the Country Climate Diagnostic Reports", she added.

She said that the US will nominate his successor and expects "a transparent, merit-based and swift nomination process" from the bank's executive board.

In the Bank statement announcing his decision to quit, Malpass said, aceWith developing countries facing unprecedented crises, I'm proud that the Bank Group has responded with speed, scale, innovation, and impact".

The Bank said that under Malpass it had "responded quickly to global crises, mobilising a record $440 billion in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, sharp global economic slowdown, unsustainable debt burdens, climate change, and food, fertilizer, and energy shortages".

The Bank, which has 189 nations as members operated through five institutions, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, the International Finance Corporation, the Multinational Investment Guarantee Agency and the International Centre for Settlement of Disputes.

Its primary role is to fund loans for development projects.

Malpass worked in various capacities with the administrations of Republican presidents Ronald Reagan and George HW Bush, and with Congress.

In 1993 he became the chief economist of the investment company Bear Sterns, which collapsed in the 2008 financial crisis.

He then set up his own economic advisory firm and made an unsuccessful bid for a Republican nomination in a senate election.

## Youth beaten up for harassing woman in Sonari

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** A youth, identified as Santosh, resident of Khuntadih, Sonari, was beaten up by a mob of local residents after he allegedly harassed a woman in Marine Drive area here on Thursday. After being roughed up by the people, the accused was released with a warning, sources said.

Sources said Santosh was allegedly harassing a local woman near Marine Drive for the last several days. Just as he was approaching the woman, her husband reached there and caught the accused. The husband beat up the accused and threatened to take him to the police station. His neighbours also roughed up the accused and warned him against harassing the woman. The accused sought forgiveness from the woman after which he was released, sources said. Sources said the accused used to stalk the victim and also sent his phone number to her through security guards. Whenever the woman went out, she was followed by him, sources said. (w-at)

## Man booked for exploiting woman

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** A woman from Kadma has accused one Manraj Mehandi of Road No. 2, Circuit House Area, of exploiting her physically after making false promise to marry her. She also accused Mehandi's parents of beating her upShe has made a police complaint against her with the Kadma police station. She told cops she had met the accused in May 2022 at a mobile phone showroom at Bistupur. The accused reportedly proposed to marry her and started visiting her house. Here he would sexually exploit her, alleged the woman. The woman said she asked the accused to marry her on 25th January last, but the accused refused to marry her and told her he was getting married to someone else. Police said an investigation was on into the incident. (w-at)

## Two bike thieves arrested, vehicles recovered

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Sakchi police arrested two persons for allegedly stealing vehicles from various places in the city. Those arrested were identified as Roshan Kumar and Rohan Rai alias Raja Rai.

Police recovered two stolen bikes on the information of the accused duo. One of the bikes was stolen from Pandey Ghat on 10th February last while the other was stolen from the parking area of MGM Hospital on 13th February last. Police said they identified the thieves on the basis of a CCTV footage and would be forwarding them to judicial custody. Rohan Rai was reportedly jailed earlier in a NDPS Act case. (w-at)

## 50 year-old man commits suicide

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** A 50 year-old man, identified as Manmohan Poddar, reportedly committed suicide by hanging self to death in his flat at Sudha's Apartment in Krishna Nagar locality of Telco on Thursday. His body was found hanging from the ceiling of his room this morning. His family informed police about the incident. Cops sent the body to MGM Medical College for postmortem examination. Sources said Manmohan had gone towards the railway station in the morning. After coming home, he locked himself in his room and took the extreme step. His family members broke open the door and found him hanging dead, sources said. (w-at)

## One arrested for violation of Tadipaar order

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Police arrested Gajanand Singh alias Rohit Singh, resident of Block No. 4, Shastrinagar, Kadma, late Wednesday night from his house for allegedly flouting Tadipaar orders against him. A case has been registered against the accused on the information of DSP Headquarters II Kamal Kishore in this connection. Gajanand is accused in a dozen crimes including murder and Arms Act cases lodged at Kadma police station. He has been forwarded to judicial custody. (w-at)

## Encroachment removed from Golmuri

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** An anti-encroachment drive was launched in Cable Town Area at Golmuri on Thursday. Several shops were removed for allegedly encroaching upon the road. Sources said several shop owners were allotted shops in Sonari and directed to vacate the shops. Despite getting the notice in this regard, the shopkeepers had not vacated their old shops, which impeded construction of the road, sources said. Security was beefed up at the site before removal of encroachment. (w-at)

## Tanker runs over cyclist in Seraikela

**Seraikela, Feb 16:** An unidentified cyclist was crushed to death by a speeding tanker on the Seraikela-Kandra main road here on Thursday. The incident occurred near Sadar Hospital, Seraikela, when the cyclist was on his way towards the local market on his bicycle. The tanker was coming at high speed. It knocked down the cyclist and ran him over. The victim died at the scene. Police sent the body of the deceased to Sadar Hospital for postmortem examination. Police arrested the tanker driver after chasing him till Birsa Chowk. (w-at)

## One arrested for stealing copper from company yard

**Gamharia, Feb 16:** Police arrested one Arup Dey, native of Bankura, for allegedly stealing copper from Nilachal Iron and Power Limited Wednesday late evening. A security personnel of the company caught him on suspicion and checked his bag. He found over one kg copper from the bag. The accused was handed over to Kandra police. The accused has reportedly confessed his crime, police said. (w-at)

## BJP leader demands waste disposal facility

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Jamshedpur Mahanagar BJP general secretary Anil Modi has demanded a permanent waste disposal facility in Jugsalai. In a request to the East Singhbhum district administration, he said the waste collected from Jugsalai is dumped beside Shiv Ghat which releases harmful smoke after being burnt by mischief-mongers. "A mound of garbage can be seen near Shiv Ghat in Jugsalai.

It often keeps burning and polluting the environment. This has made it difficult for the residents of Jugsalai and Bagbera to breathe and live in a safe environment. There is no facility to douse the fire. This is spreading diseases in the local population. I request the district administration to stop the fire and make fire safety arrangements. A waste disposal facility should also be set up in Jugsalai," said Modi. (w-at)

# IED recovered from Naxal infested forest in West Singhbhum

### Setback for rebel Misir Besra

Mail News Service

**Chaibasa, Feb 16 :** Security forces recovered an improvised explosive device (IED) from the Naxals- infested Kolhan forest. The motive was to harm the paramilitary forces, the IED was planted near Meralgeda village in the dense Kolhan forest under the Goelkera police station area. The recovery has given a jolt to one of the top Naxal leaders Misir Besra who is hiding inside the forest cover.

A bomb disposal squad of the CRPF destroyed the explosive device soon after it was detected by the paramilitary forces.

A major incident of an IED blast was averted by the timely input and action by West Singhbhum Police and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) 60 battalion. The security forces involved in the search operation West Singhbhum. The jawans of CRPF's 60 battalion and district police recovered the improvised explosive device (IED) during patrolling. Later on, the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) diffused the bomb.

" Timely intervention has helped us to defuse the bombs. The Maoists wanted to trigger a major blast. During the patrolling the security personnel recovered the bombs. We immediately pressed an anti-bomb disposal squad on service and the bombs were defused," said an official.

Sources informed that a sudden rise in the Maoists activities have let the forces intensify the patrolling. Following the incident the police have launched combing operations in the naxal-infested areas of West Sighbhum.

In the last few days an anti insurgency operation in Kolhan has been intensified following intelligence reports that suggest rebels are camping in the pockets. The administration has increased police patrolling on the bordering areas connecting to West Bengal and has also deployed adequate numbers of paramilitary personnel on areas potential to rebel attack. The detection of the IED is a major win for the paramilitary forces which had penetrated into the jungle periphery which is filled with IEDs planted by the rebels.

As many as 15 jawans have already sustained injuries, some of them seriously in the IED blasts ever since the police and paramilitary forces launched an operation to flush out the Naxals from the Kolhan and adjoining Porahat forest divisions.

West Singhbhum superintendent of police, Ashutosh Shekhar said the anti-insurgency operation is on and the Naxals hiding in the dense forest would be wiped soon.

Remarkably, the West Singhbhum administration revised its security measures after district vigilance department reported possible intruding of the rebels into the district in the wake of massive search operation launched by the Bengal police to track down the banned red army guerrillas.

Along with the police a quick response team of the CRPF with an anti landmine vehicle has been put on duty jointly with the district police.

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The administration has increased police patrolling on the bordering areas connecting to West Bengal and has also deployed an adequate number of paramilitary personnel on areas potential to rebels attack. (w-pb)

# Traders meet Kolhan MLAs, seek withdrawal of Mandi tax Bill

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** A delegation of members of Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) and several other unions of retailers and wholesalers of foodgrains, fruits and vegetables met the MLAs of Kolhan on Thursday and demanded revocation of the Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing Bill 2022.

The traders met Potka MLA Sanjeev Sardar, Jugsalai MLA Mangal Kalindi and Ichagarh MLA Savita Mahato and gave them memoranda of their demands.

The traders demanded rollback of the Bill in the larger interest of the business community and the people of the state. They said the two per cent Mandi tax proposed to be imposed by the state government was not justified. They termed the Bill as an anti-people and 'black law'.

Leading the traders, SCCI president Vijay Anand Moonka said, "We are firm on our demand for taking back this Bill. We will not step back and the agitation will continue till our demands are fulfilled by the state government. All traders are united on this issue. We are also getting the support of the people."

Moonka said the Chamber was making every effort to get the controversial Bill withdrawn. He said the Chamber and other outfits met the MLAs and got assurance for taking a considerate view of their demands. (w-at)

### Parsudih Mandi remains closed on second day

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** All shops of Parsudih Mandi remained closed on second consecutive day of the indefinite strike called by local traders in protest of the Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing Bill 2022. However, retail shops across the city remained open throughout the day. Consequently, retail business was largely unaffected by the bandh.

Sources said wholesalers kept their shops closed in Sakchi, Golmuri and few other parts o the city today. The bandh had no impact on the fruits and vegetables business as shops selling them remained open. Retail shops across Kolhan were open and the business was normal despite the bandh call. (w-at)

## Saryu seeks CBI probe into 'drug purchase scam'

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Jamshedpur East MLA Saryu Roy on Thursday sent a letter to the CBI Director seeking a probe into alleged scam involving the purchase of medicines by the state health department. He alleged that medicines were purchased from pharmaceutical companies at inflated rates which led to loss of around 200 crore to the public exchequer.

Roy met the CBI IG in Ranchi and handed over the letter addressed to the Director to probe the medicine scam.

In his letter, he said, "Five pharmaceutical companies of the Government of India conspired with the state Health Minister Banna gupta and are supplying medicines at very high prices from the year 2020-21 till now. The names of these companies are 1- Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL), 2- Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (KAPL), 3- Rajasthan Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (RDPL), 4- Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (BCPL) and 5-Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd (HAL).He has pointed out that the Government of Jharkhand has formed a public undertaking, namely Jharkhand Medical and Health Infrastructure Development and Procurement Corporation Limited (JMHIDPCL) for the purchase of medicines and medical equipment." Roy further said, "The undertaking published a tender on 22.04.2020 for the purchase of medicines. After the execution of the tender, the tenderer suppliers with the lowest rates were selected for the supply of various medicines. The corporation thereafter sent a letter to the selected drug suppliers on the basis of tender, mentioning the minimum rate, that they should make an agreement in this regard.

## Jamshedpur Vintage and Classic Car and Bike Rally on Feb 25-26

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Ahead of the 184th Founder's Day, a two-day Jamshedpur Vintage and Classic Car and Bike Rally will be held at Gopal Maidan in Bistupur on February 25-26, 2023.

The second edition of the Vintage and Classic Car and Bike Rally will play host to several vintage and classic cars and bikes made between 1920 and 1980 with owners from Ranchi, Chaibasa and Jamshedpur getting a unique opportunity to display their vehicles.

The rally is being organised as part of the 184th Founder's Day celebration honouring the vision and memory of the Company's and Tata Group's founder Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata.

Jamshedpur is not only home to connoisseurs of prized vintage cars and bikes but also has a rich cultural history and heritage. The rally is aimed at promoting the richness of Jamshedpur's culture and its history. (W-mb)

## Three trains to halt at Bamra and Bagdih

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Durg-Rajendranagar South Bihar Express, Puri-Rishikesh Kalinga Utkal Express and Howrah-Ahmedabad Express will soon get stoppage at Bamra and Bagdih railway stations. Railway has given approval to a proposal in this regard following the demand of local residents. An order in this regard has reached the Divisional Railway office, sources said.

Sources said the three trains would stop at these stations on a trial basis for next six months. Local residents had gone on massive protest in support of their demand for a stoppage of Express trains at Bamra and Bagdih. They also resorted to 'Rail Chakka Jam' to mount pressure on the Railway Ministry. After two decades, their demand has been fulfilled, sources said. (w-at)

## KCC campus selection, 22 students selected

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** A placement drive was organized by the Placement Cell at Karim City College on January 30, 2023 during which, a five-member team from Vedanta Limited interviewed the students of the institution.

The Vedanta team selected 22 students, the results of which, were received by the KCC authorities on Thursday, February 16.

The appointment letters were issued along with the results. Among the 22 selected students 19 were from the Department of Science Specialty in Chemistry and three from the undergraduate Commerce session - 2019-'22.

Vedanta Limited has selected all the 22 successful KCC students as Graduate Trainees for Jharkhand on an annual package of Rs 3.25 lakhs.

KCC Principal, Dr Mohammad Reyaz congratulated the selected students and wished them a bright future.

Placement Cell Karim City College's Chairperson, Dr G Vijayalakshmi, Secretary, Dr Anwar Shahab and Head of Department of Chemistry, Dr Khurshid Anwar also congratulated the students and expressed their happiness to the 22 over their selection. (w/gsd)

# Tata Steel completes first multi-modal shipment of TMT bars from Bengal to Tripura

## 960 tonnes of Steel TMT bars shipped from Haldia Port to Agartala

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 16:** Tata Steel successfully completed the first multi-modal shipment of 960 tonnes of steel TMT bars from West Bengal's Haldia Port to Tripura's Agartala, reiterating its commitment to a sustainable future.

On January 8, 2023, the barge "MV Bulker I" was flagged off from the Haldia port. The first leg of the journey was through the inland waterways using Indo-Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) route to the transfer point at Ashuganj port in Bangladesh.

The bars were then unloaded and the second leg transportation via road to a Land Port Authority of India warehouse at Agartala at the India-Bangladesh border was carried out.

In the third and final leg of the journey, trucks were used to transship goods from this warehouse to the distributor's warehouse in Agartala. Tata Martrade International Logistics Limited (TMILL) was in-charge of the entire logistics management for this maiden voyage. The entire transportation from flag-off to the receiving of material at distributor's warehouse was completed in 17 days.

The flag-off event was virtually inaugurated by Peeyush Gupta, Vice President GSP and Supply Chain, Tata Steel. D. Samanta of TM International Logistics Limited (TMILL) and A.K. Mahapatra, GM (Traffic), Haldia Dock Complex also joined the ceremony.

Peeyush Gupta, Vice President, GSP and Supply Chain, Tata Steel, said: "The Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route serves as a reliable integrated logistics solution for both Bangladesh and India to use inland waterways and will further help expand our consumer reach to better serve the growing North-Eastern market.

The route exemplifies efficient utilisation of the river-sea combination as a mode of transport and multimodal movement.

This endeavour supports the objectives of the PM's Gati Shakti programme and is an initiative to lower the Company's Scope 3 carbon footprint and will contribute to decarbonising the steel sector."

Ranjan Sinha, Chief Group Shipping, Tata Steel, said: "Tata Steel along with the TMILL team is proud of the efforts undertaken in the execution of this shipment. The Company hopes to shorten the timelines even further to serve its clients.

The possibility of using this route to service additional, smaller-lot regions along the river is also worth exploring.

The Indo Bangladesh Protocol route is more economical as well as environmentally more responsible." (W-mb)